

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 MAY 1981

Lebanon

Military Situation--Citing foreign sources, the Tel Aviv daily MA'ARIV reported that Syria has now placed in Lebanon a battery of SAM-2 missiles that have a greater range than the SAM-6 missiles it was earlier reported to have deployed there. A 2 May Jerusalem television report claimed that Syrian forces have repaired the roads between Zahlah and Sannin, which will allow them to link up with their forces in the central mountain area and control the mountain ridge. According to AFP, the Syrians have also reinforced their positions on the Al-Biqa' plain. According to Beirut radio, Israeli and Christian forces shelled Ash-Shaqif and Arnun, near An-Nabatiyah, on 2 May. Both the clandestine Voice of Palestine and the Voice of Lebanon reported heavy artillery shelling on 3 May and the Voice of Palestine said artillery exchanges resumed the next morning. MA'ARIV reported that all parties involved in the fighting in southern Lebanon have agreed to observe a cease-fire as of midnight 4 May.

According to reports by Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios, Beirut was relatively quiet over the weekend, although intermittent gunfire was heard. However, the Voice of Lebanon said that Syrian and Palestinian forces began shelling various areas of Beirut on the night of 3 May. Beirut radio said the city was calm by morning.

Israeli Officials Comment--Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin has said that U.S. efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis through contacts with Syria have not yet made any progress. In a 3 May statement to Jerusalem radio's English service, Begin reiterated that Israel wants a peaceful solution in Lebanon. While declaring that the Syrian forces in Lebanon should have left "long ago," Begin pointed out that Israel has never promised to use its army to throw them out. Asked if the presence of Syrian missiles in Lebanon has been confirmed, Begin replied that Israel is still checking, but that the missiles are "probably" there. Jerusalem radio later said Begin has told TIME magazine that while the current situation is dangerous, there is no risk of a "general confrontation" between Israel and Syria.

During a 1 May interview with Jerusalem television, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said Israel would be willing to reach an agreement on the situation in Lebanon on the condition that the agreement meets Israeli "expectations," which he defined as an end to Syria's takeover of control in Lebanon and an end to Syrian attempts to liquidate the Lebanese Christians. He sees no chance, however, of such an agreement at the moment, he added.

After meeting with Prime Minister Begin on 3 May to discuss the situation in Lebanon, opposition Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres told Jerusalem radio's English service that he agrees with the government that the Syrian missiles in Lebanon pose a danger to Israel's security and that Israel is entitled to take any measures necessary to have them removed, including military measures. On the other hand, IDF radio reported that the opposition disagrees with the government's view that the Christians in Lebanon face liquidation and therefore feels that Israel should help them "help themselves" rather than intervene directly.

Syrian-Libyan-Palestinian Talks--Brig Gen Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, and Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, Libyan secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, visited Damascus on 1 and 2 May to discuss the situation in Lebanon, according to reports by the Voice of Palestine and Damascus radios. The radios reported that they held several meetings with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, the Syrian foreign and defense ministers and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat during which, according to JANA, they discussed coordination among Libya, Syria, the Palestinians and the Lebanese National Movement in confronting the Lebanese crisis. The results of their talks were not announced. KUNA reported that on 3 May At-Turayki arrived in Kuwait, where he told journalists that he would discuss the Lebanese situation with Kuwaiti officials.

As-Sadat Appeal--In a 2 May speech at a May Day celebration in Hulwan, broadcast live by Cairo radio, Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat called for the Arab nations to put aside their differences and make a united effort to resolve the Lebanese crisis. He called Israel's recent military intervention in Lebanon an "extremely serious matter" but said that Israel was led to it by Syrian actions, the "negative Arab attitude," the Lebanese leaders and all other Arabs. The situation in Lebanon, he added, reflects Arab fragmentation and the disputes among its leaders at the expense of the Arab cause.

Jordanian-Palestinian Relations

Citing a Palestinian spokesman in Damascus, AFP reported that a Palestinian guerrilla was killed by Jordanian soldiers last week as his unit tried to cross into Israeli-occupied territory from Jordan.

Gulf Affairs

In a statement to the Kuwaiti press, reported by KUNA, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah stated that Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has promised to cancel the military facilities granted to the United States when his conflict with the PDRY is resolved. Shaykh as-Sabah said that during his trip to the Soviet Union last month he had asked Soviet officials to help ease tension between the PDRY and Oman since it has special relations with the PDRY. Shaykh as-Sabah also revealed that he had failed to win Soviet support for the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council despite the fact that he had explained that it is not directed against any specific party but is meant to keep the region free of military alliances and protect it from foreign threats.

Saudi-YAR Relations

In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, reported by KUNA, YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih denied recent reports of clashes between Saudi and YAR forces along their border. He added that his country has good relations with Saudi Arabia.

Libya

A joint communique issued after Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi's official visit to Yugoslavia, carried by JANA, said that during Al-Qadhdhafi's talks with Yugoslav leaders the two sides agreed that Middle East peace can be achieved only if Israel withdraws from the occupied territories and the Palestinians are allowed to return to their "homeland" and establish an independent state on their territory. They stated their willingness to support any international action taken by the Arab countries to resolve the Lebanese crisis and expressed concern over attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of the Gulf states, including the use of the Rapid Deployment Force. They stressed the importance of a political solution in Afghanistan that would ensure Afghanistan's nonalignment and its people's right to self-determination. The two sides also signed the minutes of an agreement on economic, scientific and technical cooperation. Tripoli radio reported that Al-Qadhdhafi returned to Libya on 1 May.

Iran

May Day Clashes--Tehran radio reported that a clash occurred on 1 May in Tehran between members of the leftist Fedai'yan-e Khalq and supporters of the Islamic Republic. Security forces used tear gas and fired warning shots to break up the clash, and some Fedai'yan-e Khalq members were arrested. According to AFP, several dozen people were injured in the clash, during which members of the Hezbollah (Party of God) threw stones at the leftists. The clandestine Voice of Iran radio claimed at least six people were killed. The clandestine Radio Iran also reported that antigovernment demonstrations and clashes with revolution guards took place in Mashhad, Tabriz and Shiraz on 1 May.

Dispute Over Bani-Sadr's Power--Citing a letter to the prime minister's office from the Council of Guardians, Tehran radio reported that the council has stated that President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr did not have the right as commander in chief of the armed forces to appoint a chief of the state police. The radio said the ruling came in response to a question by the prime minister.

Complaints Against Newspapers--Citing the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, AFP reported that Prosecutor General 'Ali Qoddusi has lodged complaints against the dailies ENQELAB-E ESLAMI and MIZAN. He accused the former of weakening revolutionary organs and asked the three-man committee investigating differences among Iran's leaders to conduct an inquiry. He accused MIZAN of publishing a false report about an alleged insult by a revolutionary guard to 'Abbas Amir Entezam, a member of former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan's government.

Bill Deferred--Tehran radio reported that the Majlis approved in "broad terms" a bill on recovering the wealth of the deceased shah and his relatives but decided to suspend action on it for a month. According to AFP, the bill was withdrawn because of a dispute over the use of the word "nationalization." It said some Majlis deputies argued that the measures stipulated in the bill amounted to "restitution" of property always owned by the people, rather than "nationalization," and they removed the word from the text of the bill.

Ship Seized--PARS reported that a U.S.-owned seismographic research ship leased by a Kuwaiti oil company was seized by the Iranian Navy on 1 May and taken to Bushehr.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio reports over the weekend highlighted action in the Dezful region, during which, the radio claimed, Iranian forces captured a "sensitive area" and later repulsed Iraqi efforts to retake it. The radio also claimed that Iranian forces shot down two Iraqi MiG's in the Kermanshah area and one in the western region. According to the radio, Iraqi shelling of Abadan, Ahvaz and Dezful continued, while the Iranian Air Force bombed Iraqi positions on the Qasr-e Shirin fronts.

Citing an official source, INA denied that two Iraqi aircraft were downed near Kermanshah. Instead, it said, two Iranian planes were downed by Iraqi antiaircraft fire. Iraqi General Command communiques, broadcast by Baghdad radio, confirmed the intensified fighting in the Dezful area, claiming that more than 350 Iranians were killed over the weekend. They also reported that fighting continued in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region and that an Iranian Phantom was downed during a dogfight over the region.

Kurdish Situation

A 28 April statement by the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK) Political Bureau, broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan, accused the Kurdistan National Union of sowing sedition and sabotaging the unity of the Kurdish anti-Iraqi forces. It said the Kurdistan National Union attacked DPK peshmerga twice in April and warned that the DPK will no longer tolerate such acts. The statement denounced the Kurdistan National Union as the main obstacle to the formation of a democratic national and patriotic front in Iraq.

Afghanistan

Kabul radio reported that a bomb exploded at the Kabul University engineering department on 2 May, injuring two people.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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CHATTI OPTIMISTIC ON REPLIES FROM IRAN, IRAQ

LDO22003 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, has affirmed that the replies received from Iraq and Iran by the good offices committee for ending the conflict between the two countries are cause for optimism. Chatti said in a statement to SPA that the tour by Bangladesh President Ziaul Rahman and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, was aimed at speeding up the replies to the committee's proposals. He confirmed that the committee's resumption of its efforts will be decided in view of the replies which it receives from Iraq and Iran.

The secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization stated that the organization is preparing for the Islamic states' foreign ministers' conference to be held in Baghdad on 1 June. He explained that the most important matters to be discussed by the conference will be the resolutions of the third Islamic Conference summit in Mecca. The congress will also discuss a number of Islamic issues.

Habib Chatti expressed the hope that member states will [word indistinct] attend the conference.

'ARAFAT INFORMED OF ARAB LEAGUE LEBANON EFFORTS

NC040830 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a cable from Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. The cable says: In answer to your cable it pleases me to inform you that I have carried out and continue to carry out an intensive campaign on the Arab, international, diplomatic and information levels to confront the danger of the escalating Israeli aggression against our Palestinian and Lebanese people.

I have conveyed a message to UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim on the serious situation in Lebanon. I have also summoned the heads of the French, U.S., British and Italian diplomatic missions and have drawn their attention to the fact that the Israeli attacks, which are increasing daily in violence and scope, may spark off an all-out war. I have asked them that their governments exercise all kinds of pressure on Israel to stop escalation before it is too late.

It is worth noting that I carried out similar contacts after having been informed by my personal envoy to you on 21 February of your fears that Israel was preparing for a large-scale aggression against Lebanon that would aim at striking at the Palestinian resistance and kindling the fires of sedition in Lebanon. I immediately sent a delegation to Paris which held talks with the French Foreign Ministry secretary general. The delegation asked the French official to draw the attention of the European Community and the United States to the seriousness of the aggression Menahem Begin is preparing against Lebanon as part of his election campaign. I followed this up by personal meetings with the French foreign minister and other European officials. Contacts are still continuing to protect Lebanon's unity and sovereignty as well as the Palestinian revolution.

LIBYAN, PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS MEET ON LEBANON

JN021840 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met in Damascus today with Abu Bakr Yunis, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, and with 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, Libyan secretary of liaison for foreign affairs, and with Col Salih at-Turuqi.

The meeting was also attended by Syrian Defense Minister Major General Talas. Attending on the Palestinian side were Brothers Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunaym], members of the General Command of the Al-'Asifah forces.

The radio correspondent has learned that Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar delivered an urgent letter to the Libyan delegation for Col Mu'ammam al-Qadhafi.

JANA Report

LDO31044 Tripoli JANA in English 0818 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 3 May (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander-in-chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, yesterday received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), at his current residence in Damascus. They discussed the recent developments on the Lebanese scene and the question of coordination between the Jamahiriya, Syria and the Palestine resistance in confronting Israeli aggression.

Brigadier Yunis Jabir briefed 'Arafat on the results of Colonel al-Qadhafi's recent visit to the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

'Arafat expressed his appreciation of the role played by the Jamahiriya and its support for the steadfastness of Syria, the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement.

Part of the meeting was attended by the Syrian defence minister, General Mustafa Talas.

Brigadier Yunis Jabir yesterday afternoon met with a delegation from the Lebanese National Movement headed by its leader, Walid Junblatt. He had earlier met with a delegation of leaders from the Palestine resistance including Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (General Command), Talal Naji, the front's assistant secretary, Faruq Qaddumi, head of PLO's Political Department, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzer, PLO's official spokesman, Abu Jihad, general commander of As-Sa'iqa forces and member of the Central Council of Fatah.

PLO, FATAH MEMBERS CONFER WITH SYRIA'S KHADDAM

NC021349 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1245 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Within the framework of the Palestinian-Syrian consultations on the situation in Lebanon, Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddum], chairman of the PLO Political Department, last night met with Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus. Attending the meeting were PLO Executive Committee members Brothers 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and Talal Naji as well as Fatah Central Committee members Brothers Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Abu Mahir.

We have learned that the meeting dealt with the current developments in Lebanon in light of the Zionists' bestial attacks and military concentrations against the Palestinian and Lebanese people in southern Lebanon. The conferees also thoroughly reviewed the Arab and international stand toward these developments.

'ARAFAT IN CONTACT WITH KUWAIT ON LEBANON

LDO31242 Kuwait KUNA in English 1004 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Damascus 3 May (KUNA)--The chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Yasir 'Arafat said that he was in constant contact with Kuwaiti officials and with the deputy premier, foreign minister and acting information minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad on developments in Lebanon.

In a statement to KUNA Saturday night, 'Arafat thanked Shaykh Sabah for his concern over the fate of the Palestinian and Lebanese people in Lebanon and said that the PLO is maintaining contact with Shaykh Sabah through its Kuwait representative Awni Battash about Kuwait's proposal for a roundtable conference on the crisis in Lebanon.

'Arafat said he discussed the situation in southern Lebanon in the light of the escalation of Israeli military activities against the Lebanese and Palestinian people and the continued Israeli threats against the Palestinian revolution and the Arab Deterrent Force in Lebanon with the Libyan chief of staff Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis and Libyan Foreign Minister 'Ali Abd as-Salam at-Turayki in Damascus yesterday. During the meeting, which was attended in part by the Syrian defense minister Major-General Mustafa Talas, and agreement was reached on a number of measures to confront the grave situation created by Israeli threats and military escalation, Arafat said.

'Arafat (?said) that he has approached a number of Arab leaders and sent messages to the Non-Aligned Movement, the Islamic Conference Organisation and the secretaries general of the Arab League and the United Nations on the Israeli threats and aggression.

The Libyan foreign minister and the Libyan chief of general staff are due in Kuwait today.

PFLP OFFICIAL DIFFERS WITH USSR ON MIDEAST PEACE

LD031234 Kuwait KUNA in English 1114 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Kuwait, 3 May (KUNA)--A radical Palestinian commando leader Sunday criticized the European stand on the Middle East crisis and said there was no clear cut European initiative in this respect.

The assistant secretary general of Dr. George Habash Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Abu 'Ali Mustafa, said the too-much-talked-about European initiative was merely a political move aimed at ensuring the capitalists interests in the Arab world.

The so-called initiative is not a moral awakening nor is it independent from the U.S. dictation, he said. In an interview with AL-WATAN newspaper published here today, the PFLP leader revealed the existence of differences between his organisation and the Soviet Union regarding approaches to settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Referring to proposals by the Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev at the recent 26th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party calling for an international conference on the crisis, the Palestinian official said "we respect the viewpoints of our Soviet friends regarding world issues and their opposition to imperialist plans. But our first priority at this stage is to continue our confrontation and resistance to the Camp David accords and their consequences".

Once the balance of power drifts in our favour, he said, we will then start a dialogue with our friends and allies to (?draft) new policies.

He clearly added that the PFLP was strongly opposed to any stand or viewpoint which supports legality of the Zionist entity on the Palestinian soil.

The Soviet Union, which does not support destruction of Israel, has called for the participation of the Jewish state and the PLO in the proposed international conference on the Middle East.

BAHRAINFOREIGN MINISTER DENIES PRESENCE OF U.S. BASES

JN011250 Doha QNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] Beirut, 1 May (QNA)--In statements published here, Bahraini Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah affirmed that reports circulated about the presence of U.S. bases in Bahrain are nothing but false and tendentious rumors. He added that Bahrain maintains that the Rapid Deployment Force should neither be stationed in the region nor interfere in its affairs since these forces will increase tension on the international level. He pointed out that Bahrain and the region's states all have agreed to protect their own interests and that it is not the superpowers which should determine these states' policies or stands. This came in an interview to be published in AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI.

The Bahraini foreign affairs minister discussed issues pertaining to the Gulf Cooperation Council saying that the meetings of the council's member states focused on laying down [words indistinct] Gulf states' summit. He stressed that what is important is to determine who is to be responsible for the council's apparatuses so that they will be able to achieve the requirements of the coming stage in order to serve the region since "this is more important than merely adopting speedy resolutions that cannot be implemented."

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah pointed out that the six members states in the Gulf Cooperation Council have agreed among themselves to give the General Secretariat to the State of Kuwait, which has so far failed to officially nominate any candidate. He, however, expressed the conviction that Ya'qub Bisharah, former Kuwaiti UN permanent representative, will be nominated.

The Bahraini foreign minister expressed support for the Kuwaiti proposal to hold a round-table conference of the combatant sides in Lebanon to solve the 6-year-old crisis. He added that Kuwait is best qualified to begin this kind of dialogue among the Lebanese.

KUWAITFOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS LEBANON, U.S. BASES IN OMAN

LD030838 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0725 GMT 3 May 81

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 3 May (KUNA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kuwait Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah is quoted today as having said that Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman has promised to cancel the military facilities granted to the United States once the state of tension between his country and its southern neighbor, the PDRY, comes to an end.

The Kuwaiti daily papers today carry statements made yesterday to their chief editors, in which he said that during his recent visit to Moscow toward the end of last month, he asked the USSR leaders to help ease tension between the PDRY, which has a treaty of friendship and cooperation with the USSR, and Oman in view of the "special relations" between Moscow and Aden. He added that he had told the Soviet officials that ending the state tension in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula would be the "principal" factor to enable Sultan Qabus to implement the promise he had made to cancel the air and naval facilities which the United States secured in Oman under an agreement signed between the two countries last year.

According to the statements published in the newspapers, Shaykh as-Sabah said that he had explained the purpose behind setting up the Gulf Cooperation Council to the Soviet leaders. He pointed out that the purpose was to pool all the region's capabilities to check foreign threats and keep the region away from military bases and alliances. He also pointed out to them that the council was not directed against anybody in particular "yet all this did not help win support for the establishment of the council."

The Kuwait foreign minister added that the council, whose leaders will be holding their first summit conference in Abu Dhabi in 3 weeks' time, was facing numerous internal and external difficulties. But, he added, he was confident that it would be possible to surmount these difficulties for several reasons including the fact that the Gulf countries are bound together by the "same" conditions and characteristics.

As an example of these external difficulties the Kuwaiti foreign minister cited doubts which, he said, were raised by some countries following the announcement of the council's establishment last February and the council being described by others as spreading suspicion.

As to the internal difficulties he described them as "more like differences between members of the same family which are soon resolved." He also said that the foreign ministers of the council member countries will discuss these problems and try to solve them during their meeting in Abu Dhabi 2 days before to the Gulf summit conference of 25 May.

Speaking of the Lebanese crisis, Shaykh as-Sabah reiterated Kuwait's support for Syria's efforts to restore peace in Lebanon following the battles of last month. He added, "in their efforts and sacrifices to contain and control the situation in Lebanon, the brother Syrians deserve all support from us." He added that "all" the combatants in Lebanon "have welcomed" Kuwait's offer to play host for a roundtable conference aimed at resolving the Lebanon crisis, to be attended by all these forces. He said that Syria, which has about 30,000 forces involved in the peacekeeping operation in Lebanon, has agreed to the Kuwaiti initiative, but declined to attend the proposed conference because it does not consider itself a party to the crisis.

Shaykh as-Sabah said, "Our invitation to the brothers in Lebanon to meet in Kuwait has been and continues to be an initiative which falls within the framework of the sincere efforts being exerted to put an end to bloodshed."

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, he said, have refrained from meeting their financial commitments toward the Arab Deterrent Forces comprising the Syrian troops in Lebanon because the command of these forces has failed to submit regular 3-monthly reports on its activities. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar had pledged to meet the financial cost of the Arab force when it was set up by the Arab League in 1976 to put an end to the civil war in Lebanon.

OFFICIAL HOPES FOR U.S. RECOGNITION OF PLO

LDO31340 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1319 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Kuwait, 3 May (KUNA)--Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn said today that the U.S. insistence on refusing to recognize the PLO "contradicts the international reality."

Asked what he thought of the recent statements by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig that the PLO is one of the parties that should join in restoring calm to Lebanon and whether he considered these statements as an implicit U.S. recognition of the PLO, Husayn said that "most countries in the world recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people, as has been evident from the voting at the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly and as affirmed by the Palestinian people's unanimity inside and outside the occupied territory and their rallying around the PLO."

Husayn expressed his hope that the U.S. would follow the international community "and recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people."

OMANQABUS INTERVIEWED ON DEMOCRACY, GULF COOPERATION

LD022114 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 2 May 81 EA

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has given an interview to AL-MUSTAQBAL magazine in which he dealt with a number of prominent Arab and international issues of worldwide interest and subjects of considerable political dialogue and controversy.

At the beginning of the AL-MUSTAQBAL interview his majesty spoke about Oman's model of democracy and how his majesty's government is gradually working for the interest of the country toward the desired goal.

His majesty then moved on this important political interview with AL-MUSTAQBAL to a question on foreign experts in Oman which was asked by the magazine's correspondent. His majesty said clearly frankly: We in Oman conceal nothing in our policies. We do not have the same complexes as others have. His majesty said that there is no single state in the world that does not have foreign expertise; even the USSR, a superpower, needs the West's expertise in matters of computers and advanced technology. We as Omanis and Arabs will need many years to excel in these spheres. His majesty elaborated on the subject, saying: All expertise in Oman is of the advisory type; decisions and implementation remain in Omani hands. His majesty said: I am satisfied to a great extent by Omani achievements in this area. Omanis have attained quite a high level of learning and science.

His majesty then moved on to the situation in the Gulf region and the subject of Gulf cooperation, saying: There have been many previous attempts in this direction, the first in 1974, but none have been successful. When the idea of Gulf cooperation was revived during the Amman summit, we immediately supported and agreed to it. When we received a working paper in At-Ta'if, we responded to the idea and paid much attention to it. His majesty pointed out that the most important aspect of the idea of the Gulf Cooperation Council is the subject of collective Gulf security. He said: This is so because the dangers threatening us are the same regardless of the various names we given them. For that reason coordinated efforts are required to ward off the dangers and to protect ourselves. The security role of the Gulf Cooperation Council is a principal and fundamental role as far as Oman and the other Gulf countries are concerned.

In response to a question on Oman's role in the region in the present circumstances and the political conflicts surrounding it, his majesty said: Oman is accustomed to declaring its policy frankly and openly. It does not pursue covert policies on the one hand and overt ones on the other. His majesty said: The region is facing threats from all directions. The USSR is in Afghanistan, while South Yemen is a Soviet military base in the full meaning of the word. There are thousands of Cuban soldiers in Ethiopia. His majesty went on to say: We are the gateway to Arabia and the oil route. Any aircraft in the Horn of Africa, Kabul or Tashkent is capable of covering a distance of 450 miles to drop mines in the Strait of Hormuz, closing the strait and severing the West's economic artery. What prevents such an occurrence is the knowledge that we are friends of the West. There must be a counterbalance [mizan] to prevent the occurrence of such possible hostile acts. His majesty added: We do not provide military bases, but what we do offer are facilities which will lead to improving and expanding our airports, ports and facilities to enable us to have the experience to absorb the required services. [sentence as heard] But in the end everything will remain in Oman for the benefit of Oman.

On the Iraq-Iran war his majesty said that it has lasted a long time and that it is in the interest of no one--Iran, Iraq, or the Arabs--for it to continue. He said: It is our duty as Arabs and Muslims to find a solution to this war and end it honorably, restoring everyone's rights.

PDRY'ALI NASIR ISSUES YSP CENTRAL COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LD011354 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Apr 81 EA

[Statement issued by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, on work of YSP third Central Committee session held 28-30 April]

[Excerpts] From 28 through 30 April the YSP Central Committee held its third ordinary session. It studied a number of party, political, economic and educational issues linked with the development of the internal life of the party and consolidation of the foundations of the new life of our party within the framework of the continued promotion of the ongoing revolutionary process in the country, toward the goal of accomplishing the tasks of this stage of the democratic national revolution and its socialist horizons.

The Central Committee also studied the political situation and developments at various regional, Arab and international levels during the period between the second and third sessions.

The American and British moves aimed at blatant military intervention in the affairs of the Gulf area, the Arabian Peninsula and the Horn of Africa occupied a prominent place in the Central Committee's discussions. The discussions stressed the necessity of continuing the march along the course of the resolute confrontation of the dangers that threaten the states and peoples of this area because of the increasingly aggressive military moves of imperialism which aim at disrupting security and stability and paving the way for blatant military intervention, with the ultimate aim of controlling the potentials and resources of the people of the area and hampering their progress and prosperity.

The Central Committee noted with deep concern the inclination of some sides toward stockpiling weapons, in line with the new role being played by British imperialism in coordination with American imperialism to implement the conspiratorial design against the states and peoples of the area. This is manifested in the aggressive statements and the suspicious moves of Margaret Thatcher, the prime minister of the British Government, aimed at creating scope for the activity of the so-called rapid intervention forces against the peoples and states of the area.

The Central Committee is of the opinion that the work for providing security and stability in the area cannot achieve its aims without the complete elimination of the imperialist military bases which have begun to spread in the area with the help of the collusion of some regimes in the area, a matter that demands intensive and responsible activity by all the parties concerned in order to guarantee the national sovereignty, vital interests, security and stability of the peoples of our area.

In this connection the Central Committee has stressed the importance of the call previously made by the comrade secretary general for holding a summit conference of states of the Gulf, the Arabian Peninsula, the Horn of Africa and the other parties concerned.

The escalation of the imperialist designs and moves against the peoples of the area and the diversity of the sides participating in their implementation must not under any circumstances lead to the attainment of the grave aims charted for them because of the vigilance of the peoples of the area and the development of their liberation and nationalistic consciousness and the consolidation of the numerous gains achieved by the national liberation movement in this area throughout its long struggle against colonialism and neocolonialism and for independence and social progress.

At a time when Democratic Yemen is continuing to exert efforts to safeguard the security and stability of the entire area, in cooperation and coordination with the other parties concerned, our people and armed forces are able to safeguard our national sovereignty and independence and deter all the aggressive conspiracies and provocative moves. Our people have the strength and militant nationalistic traditions to enable them to preserve their security and stability.

CHAIRMAN DELIVERS REPORT TO PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

LD032006 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 3 May 81

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the People's Supreme Assembly and the Council of Ministers, today presented to the People's Supreme Assembly a political report on the activities of the state in the period between the two sessions of the assembly. Here is the text of the political report:

Brother members of the assembly: Here we are at this session continuing to discharge the duties entrusted to us by the workers and the toiling masses of our people--duties relating to the political and economic development of our people. I wish this session new successes to add to its previous successes to help our people progress further in social development.

It is a tradition of this assembly that we review in every session the work of the period preceding it, while laying guidelines for the next period. In the light of this I am happy to review before you the results of our activities in the period between the two sessions.

In the light of the guidelines laid down by our YSP, which were endorsed by the extraordinary congress, the government of the revolution continued its discussions of many issues affecting the life of the masses and economic development. One of the important things was the completion and endorsement of the amended second 5-year plan, which now has been placed before you by the Council of Ministers.

I must point out that we are moving ahead positively towards solving the electric power crisis by expanding the capacity of the Khormaksar plant and building a new one in Al-Mansurah. Work is also proceeding to implement the geothermal station project at Hiswah and the Wadi Hadramawt electrification project.

In the field of housing there are now many projects being undertaken by the state and, once completed, thousands of people will benefit. The government has also continued to encourage the construction of homes by private individuals and will provide various construction materials.

With regard to corruption in the administration and the exploitation of positions, those who have been misusing government and public property have been apprehended and brought before the courts. In this respect the public watch body, government bodies and mass organizations are required to play a vigilant part in protecting public property from all forms of sabotage and neglect. Individuals who do not respect responsibility or misuse public assets should not be tolerated, for their activities obstruct the development of the national economy.

As we review with you various aspects of our activities, we must not overlook the extent of damage done in our country by rainfall during the past few weeks. We have made urgent efforts to repair the damage caused by the floods. The government is now preparing a program to assist areas which have suffered material losses. Contacts will be made with regional and international bodies for this purpose.

The dangerous developments fomented by U.S. imperialism in the region made necessary moves towards making efforts with other parties to maintain peace in the region. This was demonstrated by the letters carried by our envoys to the heads of state in the region. The letters defined frankly our attitude towards the current developments. We reiterate here that the PDRY will continue to oppose the imperialist military presence in the region. Our country's call for a summit of states of the Peninsula, the Gulf, the Horn of Africa and other interested parties should be an entry point for all parties concerned for the future of peace and stability in the region. Our visit to socialist Ethiopia was part of the efforts for the stability of the region.

Security and stability in the region cannot be achieved through installing military bases or military blocs but by complete elimination of military bases from the territory of the countries in this region and turning the region into a zone of peace and cooperation. To this end Democratic Yemen will continue to work in the future in the light of its call.

The visit by U.S. Secretary of State General Haig to the region, can, in our opinion, contribute in no way towards bringing peace to the region. He came to the region carrying the sword of hostility against the Arab national liberation movement in an attempt to divert our Arab peoples attention from their fundamental cause--the Palestinian cause--and from the continuing Israeli occupation. We would like to assure, from here, those who have been attracted by Haig's proposals about the setting up of a security belt by means of a chain of military bases that they will fail to make our peoples forget their causes of destiny or remain silent over these aggressive bases.

I would like to mention that we have accepted an invitation from Comrade Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, to visit Bulgaria. There are also invitations to visit other fraternal and friendly countries. We firmly believe that the coming visits to these countries will contribute towards strengthening our country's relations with them.

Finally, brother members, before you now is the agenda for the session. Once again I wish the session success. Thank you.

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD REPORTEDLY TO VISIT INDIA

GF021144 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 1 May 81 p 1

[Text] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, will arrive in New Delhi 18 May on a 3-day official visit during which he will meet with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Arab diplomatic sources told AL-KHALIJ that this visit takes on special importance because of the relations each of the two countries have with the Soviet Union and because of their common perspective toward security in the Gulf region.

COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S. EFFORTS ON LEBANON CRISIS

NC011613 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 May 81

[Commentary by political affairs editor Layla Zaydan: "The International Efforts to Defuse the Explosive Situation in the Lebanese Crisis."]

[Text] The seriousness and consequences of the Lebanese crisis raise increasing concern at the international level, particularly after new elements have been involved in the crisis such as Syria's deployment of SAM surface-to-air missiles in Lebanon, the air clash in which Israeli fighter planes shot down two Syrian helicopters over Lebanese territory and the continuous Israeli reconnaissance flights since the Syrians brought in the SAM missiles. This is in addition to the U.S. concern and its dissatisfaction with Israel's use of U.S.-made planes in offensive sorties, violating the agreement between the United States and Israel not to use these planes except for self-defense.

In view of this escalation, various powers have intensified their efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the Lebanese crisis. In the United States, great efforts were being made to contain the situation between Syria and Israel. This was the objective of the meeting by U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

At the same time, the U.S. Government has urged the Soviets to use their influence with Syria to defuse the explosive situation. Hence, it was reported that the deputy Soviet foreign minister will visit Damascus shortly.

The UN role in the Lebanese crisis was among the most important topics which UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim discussed at his meeting with U.S. Vice President George Bush and Secretary of State Alexander Haig. Waldheim had stated that the United Nations has enough problems in Lebanon and has been acting in accordance with the mandate granted to it by the Security Council and that any new role for it demands a new mandate by the council.

ABU GHAZALAH VIEWS RESULTS OF WASHINGTON TALKS

London Statement

NC011906 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] London, 1 May (MENA)--Egyptian Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah has denied the presence of any danger in the sale of any types of U.S. arms to Egypt. In a statement before leaving London for Cairo today Abu Ghazalah said that during the talks he recently held in Washington agreement was reached on the military cooperation program between the United States and Egypt for the next 5 years, beginning 1982, in addition to speeding up the delivery of U.S. arms to Egypt.

Abu Ghazalah pointed out that during the talks he explained Egypt's defense requirements in light of the security situation in the area and the Soviet moves aimed at imposing a military belt in the Middle East. He further said that the talks dealt with the formation of the peacekeeping force that will supervise the final Israeli withdrawal from Sinai. MENA has learned that regarding the military cooperation program with Egypt, the consignments outlined in the program will be sent beginning 1 July. The consignment includes new types of U.S. aircraft, tanks and other weaponry.

MAY Statement

NC032316 Cairo MENA Arabic 2217 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 3 May (MENA)--This week President Anwar as-Sadat will study the U.S. offers concerning the military assistance program to Egypt for this year and decide on the best choices for Egypt. This was stated by Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah in a statement published in Monday issue of the weekly newspaper MAY. He said that in light of President as-Sadat's decision, the Egyptian proposals will be conveyed to the U.S. side during the U.S. assistant secretary of defense's visit to Egypt, which will begin Saturday.

Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah added that Egypt will ask Washington to consider the military aid program for the coming years on the basis of estimated figures not less than what the U.S. Congress has decided for Egypt for this year, which is \$900 million. MAY newspaper said that the defense minister, who recently returned from a visit to the United States, has prepared a detailed report on the results of his military talks in Washington for submission to President as-Sadat this week.

The newspaper AL-AHRAM has reported in its Monday issue that Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah's visit to the United States confirmed that there are no restrictions of any kind on the supply of U.S. weapons to Egypt, including Hawkeye early warning planes and the F-15 Eagle fighters, which are considered the most modern in the world.

The paper added that the U.S. military delegation that will arrive in Cairo next week will include the assistant secretary of defense for national security affairs and General (Sicourt), the official responsible for military sales to the Middle East. The delegation will meet with Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah and senior Egyptian officers to continue discussions of the new 5-year plan for the supply of arms to Egypt, which includes various types of sophisticated weapons on which the defense minister reached agreement during his recent 10-day visit to Washington.

GHALI, ABU GHAZALAH HOLD 'IMPORTANT' MEETING

NC011449 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1412 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] London, 1 May (MENA)--Egyptian Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah and Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali held an important meeting at the Egyptian Embassy in London this morning. During the meeting, which lasted 2 hours and 30 minutes, the two ministers reviewed the results of the contacts which Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah held in Washington with senior U.S. officials. The two ministers also discussed the arrangements for the establishment of an international peacekeeping force in Sinai within the framework of the United Nations in the light of Egypt's insistence that the UN Security Council should shoulder its responsibilities in maintaining international peace and security as stipulated in the UN Charter.

Dr Butrus Ghali told MENA after the meeting that Egypt will not seek the formation of a multinational force outside the UN framework unless it becomes completely clear to it that it is impossible for the United Nations to play its role in this regard. Then the formation of such a multinational force should follow the same principles and basis which are applied in the formation of UN peacekeeping forces.

Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah had arrived in London this morning from Washington on his way back to Cairo, where he is due to arrive this evening.

GHALI INTERVIEWED ON LONDON TALKS, MIDEAST PEACE

LD040745 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 1 May 81 p 1

[Wafa'i Diyaab report: "Ghali Tells ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Egypt Is Not Committed to 'Camp David' Method and Is Ready for Solution Acceptable to All Parties"]

[Excerpts] London--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali affirmed that his country is not committed to any particular method to achieve peace in the Middle East and that it is ready to approve any proposed solution approved by all the parties concerned in the crisis. In a statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT at the end of his talks with British officials in London he said that Egypt cannot ignore the framework that was agreed upon at Camp David but this does not mean that it does not approve of any other new framework that would ensure peace in the area.

Ghali added: The Camp David accords were merely a framework and Egypt is not committed to any particular method but to the achievement of a single objective, namely peace in the area. If there was to be an agreement among all the parties concerned to adopt a different method then we would welcome it. The Egyptian minister said: The parties concerned to which I am referring are: the Israeli side, the Palestinian side, the Arab side and the American side. But what matters is to find an alternative before we begin ignoring the framework which has been agreed upon.

Ghali said: I have come to London in order to emphasize Egypt's interest in the European initiative and the role that Britain can play in the second half of this year when it assumes the chairmanship of the European Community. Talks and discussions took place on the dimensions of the European initiative and the need to coordinate it and the U.S. initiative in order to avoid any possible contradiction. I have found complete understanding on the part of the British officials of the Egyptian views and our viewpoint on the need that this initiative should be the common denominator for all the Arab countries rather than a means of causing further disputes or widening the rift between them.

Pointing to differences between the U.S. and European policies on the crisis in the area, the Egyptian minister said: We have asked for coordination because we believe that there are such differences. It is in the interest of the Arab world to iron out such differences and for the U.S. initiative to back the European initiative and vice versa.

Ghali denied that there is a stalemate in the U.S. role and said: There is no stalemate there as you say. But American diplomacy and the European diplomacy are waiting for the outcome of the Israeli elections because it is difficult to negotiate with the Israeli side during the election stage that could be exploited for other ends. I do not believe that anything will happen before the results of these elections are known.

With regard to the U.S. administration's role in the area, the Egyptian minister of state said: The new U.S. administration has not yet adopted a stand with regard to details. What matters to it now is that the peace process should continue but it has not taken any decisions regarding the method by which the peace process will continue. I believe that it will also wait for the results of the Israeli elections and it might adapt its policy in the area in the light of these results.

The Egyptian minister underlined the importance of Arab solidarity and the need to intensify contacts in order to achieve mutual trust. He said: I believe that in the final analysis this solidarity will be achieved and it will overcome disputes. This is not the first time that the Arab world has differed over the Palestine problem. He added: We have no conditions for the restoration of the Arab ranks to what they used to be but at the same time I am not ready to say that I have erred by signing the Camp David accords. It is through these agreements that I have been able to restore Arab land.

Speaking about the joint Soviet-Kuwaiti call for a roundtable conference to discuss the Middle East problem, Ghali said: When Brezhnev's statement was issued President as-Sadat welcomed it. We are ready to go along with the proposal on condition that the other parties will agree on it. As I said, we are not committed to any particular method to solve the Palestine problem and we do not have a monopoly of such methods. If there is another method or alternative and everybody agrees on it, then we would accept this alternative.

Speaking about the Egyptian arms deal with Iraq, Ghali said: President as-Sadat has already said that we have sold arms to Iraq because of the aid that Iraq gave us in 1973. But as to whether there were political consultations before or after the deal, I have no knowledge of them.

Concluding, Ghali emphasized that his country refuses to join NATO alliance forces. He said: Egypt is a nonaligned state and in accordance with membership in this movement it refuses to join any military alliance and to grant any permanent military base on its territories.

GHALI LEAVES LONDON FOR GENEVA, MAKES STATEMENT

JN021922 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] London, 2 May (MENA)--Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, left London for Geneva this afternoon on a 4-day visit to Switzerland at the end of a 5-day visit to Britain.

While in Britain, Dr Ghali held talks with British officials on the European initiative in the Middle East and on the role of the European Community in the process of achieving peace in the region.

During his visit to Switzerland, Dr Ghali will attend the meetings of the UN Commission on International Law.

Dr Butrus Ghali has addressed an appeal to the European Community calling on it to play a positive role in the process of making peace in the Middle East and to undertake a continuous European movement regarding the various issues in the region so that it can, through this movement, maintain the process of peace and reach solutions to these issues. In a statement to MENA correspondent in London prior to his departure from London, Dr Ghali called for complete coordination between the U.S. move and the European move in a manner that serves peace in the region.

Asked what is meant by the U.S. initiative and whether that which is meant falls within the framework of Camp David or whether there are expectations of a new initiative by U.S. President Ronald Reagan's administration, Dr Ghali said that the United States had actually pledged to play the role of a full partner in the process of making peace in the region. He said that this is the U.S. initiative. In it the United States plays the role of a full partner in the peace process and plays a positive role that may take on various concepts and dimensions. Eventually, he said, what is important is that the United States has pledged to play a positive role, to be present in the negotiations and to offer guarantees and aid for the attainment of peace in the region.

Dr Ghali added that Egypt calls on the European states as a whole to play the same role and participate in the process of attaining peace in the region, providing that redundancy is avoided. In addition, he said, there are special relations between Europe and the United States.

He added that it is in the interest of both Egypt and the Arab homeland that these special relations continue and that coordination between the two initiatives in the broad sense continues. This is what we mean by the U.S. move, without indulging in details. He said that what is important is a continuous U.S. move in the Middle East in order to surmount the obstacles that have emerged before the attainment of a lasting peace. He added that Egypt also calls on the European states to continue their moves vis-a-vis the various Middle East issues so that the process of peace can be preserved through these continuous moves.

The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs indicated that out of its political flexibility, Egypt does not stick to a definite mold, but sticks to peace as a target. For the sake of achieving this objective, he said, Egypt accepts any means or framework of action in order to achieve peace in the region. He added that it also welcomes any other means that can achieve peace, on condition that it is accepted by the concerned parties.

On his talks in London, Dr Ghali said that the aim of the visit was to explain Egypt's interest in the European initiative and Britain's role within the European Community.

Butrus Ghali said that the British side showed a positive response regarding the most important topics of discussion between the two sides. He added that discussions with the British officials were not confined to the European initiative but also dealt with bilateral issues and African problems, particularly since the two sides agree on the importance of the stability of the African Continent and both sides share the same concerns regarding Namibia and the necessity of helping this country to attain its independence.

Dr Ghali pointed out that Britain has special relations with South Africa and that it is obvious that Namibia's independence is linked with South Africa's presence in Namibia.

Dr Ghali also said that his discussions with British officials were extremely positive and mark the beginning of continuing contacts between the two countries.

Replying to the Israeli foreign minister's statements in which he called for Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon, Dr Ghali said in his statement to a MENA correspondent in London that Israel has no right to interfere in the internal affairs of the Arab countries. He added that if Israel wants to contribute to the process of peace, then it must stop its interference, either by means of statements, by armed force or by any other means.

Regarding the contacts concerning the formation of a peacekeeping force in Sinai, Dr Ghali explained that he is still in touch with Egypt's UN delegate, Dr 'Isnat 'Abd al-Majid, and in touch with the ambassadors and foreign ministers of the permanent UN Security Council member states in order to surmount the difficulties which are created by the Arab rejectionist states and by the Soviet Union. Dr Ghali stressed that if these difficulties are not surmounted then a force from the UN Security Council emergency forces will be formed, and if they are still not overcome, then Egypt will make contacts to form a multinational force outside the framework of the United Nations.

Dr Ghali explained that this issue has been discussed with Egyptian Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazala, who stopped in London yesterday en route to Cairo. He added that it had not been agreed yet which states will participate in the formation of these forces. He said that what is important here is that they must be a token force representing many countries from various parts of the world.

Speaking about his coming visit to Switzerland, Dr Ghali said that during his visit to Switzerland he will open the meetings of the UN Commission on International Law in Geneva on Monday and that he will return to Cairo on Tuesday evening.

Dr Ghali met in London today with Egyptian envoys and answered their questions on the development of the situation in the area and the progress of the peace process as well as the relations between Egypt and Israel on the one hand and Egypt and the Arab countries on the other. Dr Ghali also held a special meeting with the Egyptian Embassy staff in London a short while before he and his delegation left for Cairo at the end of his visit to England.

EGYPT SEEKS SECURITY COUNCIL RESPONSE ON UN FORCE

NC032247 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 3 May (MENA)--The weekly newspaper MAY reports that Egypt has asked the UN Security Council to issue an official document stating the council's inability to agree on Egypt's request to form an international peacekeeping force in Sinai under the UN flag. In its Monday issue, the paper says Egypt has asked that the document stipulate that the council's inability stems from the attitude of the Soviet Union, which is threatening to use its veto power if the subject is discussed in the Security Council.

The paper points out that Egypt has asked the council to respond to the document in which it asked the council to officially state its position regarding the establishment of this force. MAY newspaper adds that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today held a telephone conversation with Dr 'Isnat 'Abd al-Majid, Egypt's permanent UN representative, within the framework of the continuing consultations with the Security Council members on this subject.

The paper also reports that U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary [title as received] Michael Serner will arrive in Cairo on Saturday on a third tour of the area to discuss the formation of an international force to supervise the security arrangements in Sinai.

'ALI VIEWS IMPENDING SINAI FORCE TRIPARTITE TALKS

NC012135 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the meeting of the Egyptian, U.S. and Israeli military experts beginning next Monday will primarily focus on discussing purely military aspects to form an international force in Sinai and all points pertinent to the method, size and command of this force. Ali said that the rules that will be made by the committee will apply to the international force in Sinai, whether it is a UN or a multinational force.

'Ali emphasized that Egypt's primary concern is for the force to be under UN sponsorship. He said, however, in the event that the United Nations fails to form this force, Egypt's alternative will be a multinational force.

The Egyptian delegation, led by Maj Gen Hasan Hamdi, will leave Cairo tomorrow for Washington.

'ALI INTRODUCES NEW PROGRAM ON FOREIGN POLICY

NC012143 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2005 GMT 1 May 81

[Introduction by Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali in a new program: "With the Foreign Policy"--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful, on the occasion of the weekly program of the various activities of the Egyptian diplomacy, it pleases me that the radio showed interest in introducing this program. It is important to the Egyptian diplomacy that its various activities are understood by all citizens.

The foreign policy is before anything else a true reflection of the society. The stronger and more vital the society is the more the domestic front will be united in facing various dangers and the more our foreign policy will be an active, constructive and [word indistinct] policy.

The foreign policy of any state mainly aims at defending the people's interests, security and welfare. Our foreign policy is governed by clear and permanent considerations from which it will not deviate. Regardless of events, we are the heart and a true part of the Arab nation. Our diplomacy reflects concern for the sublime interests of the Arab nation in which we deeply believe, we are in a prominent position as far as serving the nation's objectives. This is one consideration.

At the same time, Egypt believes in the nonaligned policy and rejects, proceeding from its interests and security, joining any military pacts or permitting the presence of foreign bases of its territory. In our foreign relations, we also follow the policy of peace, which aims at establishing peace in our area and in the whole world, as we believe that no economic or societal progress, to which we aspire, can be achieved without a climate of peace and stability. However, we must stress here that the peace we are seeking is that based on justice, because it is a lasting peace.

For all this, it pleases me to welcome this new radio program, hoping that it will lead to further cohesion between the Egyptian diplomacy, the information media and the various factions of the people for which we work and contribute toward the establishment of tranquility, security and progress. Thank you.

OFFICIAL VIEWS SOVIET UN SINAI FORCE OBJECTION

NC012206 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2005 GMT 1 May 81

[Statement by Foreign Ministry Ambassador Fawzi al-Ibrashi outlining Egypt's views on the proposed peacekeeping force in a new program: "With the Foreign Policy"--recorded]

[Text] The treaty provides that the formation of this force will be with knowledge of the Security Council.

For this reason, recently Egypt has intensified its contacts with members of the Security Council. We know that the Security Council includes 15 members, including 5 permanent members. This was naturally the only way to arrive at the UN Charter acceptable to these five states that each of them would have the right to veto any resolution the council might adopt. We know that the contacts are continuing. From the beginning the Soviet Union has been opposed to the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

In our contacts with the states concerned in holding contacts with the Soviet Union, we say that we differentiate between two things. There is a difference between the Camp David accord--if the Soviet Union objects to the Camp David agreement or the peace treaty--[and the presence of a UN force in the Sinai]. So, it must not object to the presence of the peacekeeping forces or the observers force in Israel because their mission will be to keep the peace. We are all committed to that as members to the UN Charter and as one of the principles of all the states to maintain world peace and security.

The Soviet Union, as one of the two superpowers, shoulders a great burden in this respect, together with the United States, in relation to preserving world peace and security. The Soviet Union's objection, if it were to take place, will be inconsistent with Brezhnev's recent initiative which calls for holding an international conference to settle the Middle East crisis.

We say that if the conference was held in earnest, we have already before us things in the peace treaty between two states, and what is needed is an approval of the presence of peacekeeping forces to maintain peace between these two states and subsequently maintain peace in this area and world peace. I believe this will be a test and the results will be known shortly [words indistinct]. There is an alternative, but Egypt does not wish to discuss an alternative before seeking the first alternative provided for in the peace treaty--for the peacekeeping forces to be formed by the UN Security Council.

EGYPT, SUDAN OFFICIALS DENY CHAD ALLEGATIONS

LD010819 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 29 Apr 81 pp 1, 2

[Thana' Yusuf report: "Egypt Refutes Chad Allegations"]

[Text] United Nations--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has categorically denied Chad accusations against Egypt and Sudan that the two countries threaten its security. In a letter he sent to the Security Council Chairman Butrus Ghali described these allegations as malicious and harmful. He said that the allegations that Egypt threatened Chad with armed invasion and that it gives military aid to Hissein Habre are unfounded.

Ghali asserted that Egypt is fully committed to respecting the OAU resolutions on Chad and that it has often called for the implementation of these resolutions in order to achieve national reconciliation in Chad and preserve its independence and national integrity.

Ghali said that the Libyan invasion of Chad threatens peace and security throughout the African Continent and stressed that Egypt reserves its right to raise this question at the Security Council.

On the other hand, Sudanese Permanent UN Delegate 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abdallah Majdub categorically and firmly denied Chad's allegations against Sudan and described such allegations as groundless. This was continued in a message the Sudanese delegate sent to the Security Council chairman.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 1-3 MAY

Communique No 323

JN011726 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 May 81

[Communique No 323 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 1 May 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With high ability, our valiant armed forces are defending the homeland and the people's dignity and continue to pound the forces of the arrogant Persian aggressors in the operational sectors. The results of their activities last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

- A. Our brave units continued to hit hard with various weapons enemy pockets and remnants in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, inflicting the following losses: 317 killed and 6 tanks; 1 field gun; 3 vehicles, one loaded with hardware; 2 missile launchers; and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed. Two serviceable field guns were also captured. Furthermore, our helicopters today raided enemy positions in the same region and destroyed three tanks before returning safely to their bases.
- B. Our units hit enemy concentrations in the Gilan-e Charb region and forced them to flee, leaving behind 38 dead. One of our units raided enemy positions and personnel in the same region, killing 11 and destroying 2 infantry positions.
- C. Five were killed in the Dezful region.
- D. Our units hit enemy positions and concentrations in the Shush region, inflicting the following losses: 46 killed and a large number wounded; 1 field gun; 4 vehicles, two loaded with hardware; 1 excavator; and 3 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.
- E. One was killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
- F. Our units hit hard with various weapons an enemy concentration near their positions in the Abadan region and forced it to flee, killing 32, wounding a large number and destroying 1 vehicle. Furthermore, one of our units raided enemy positions and personnel concentrations in the same region, inflicting the following losses: 21 killed and 6 infantry positions, 1 tank, 1 field gun and 3 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.

Thus, total known enemy losses are: 471 killed, a large number of wounded and 8 infantry positions, 10 tanks, 5 field guns, 8 vehicles, 2 missile launchers, 1 excavator, and 7 stockpiles of hardware destroyed or captured.

II. Our losses:

- A. In personnel: 35 martyrs in all sectors.
- B. In equipment: One personnel carrier, three vehicles and three mortars damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 May 1981

Communique No 324

JN021727 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 May 81

["Text" of Communique No 324 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 2 May]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our courageous armed forces hit the Magian Persian enemy forces hard in the operations sectors yesterday evening and today. The following are the results:

I. Known enemy losses:

- A. Two tanks, one field gun and one ammunition stockpile were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region. Our patrols discovered in various parts of the same region 116 bodies left over during the recent battles there. The bodies were buried by our units.
- B. Eleven were killed and one vehicle was destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
- C. Two observation posts were destroyed in the Mehran region.
- D. One of our advanced units clashed with an enemy infantry force supported by artillery in the Dezful region and pounded it strongly with all weapons, killing 247 and wounding a large number.
- E. Two field guns and two observation posts were destroyed in the Shush region.
- F. Two were killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region. Our antiaircraft fire shot down two enemy fighter planes in the same region when they tried to raid our positions.
- G. Our units pounded the enemy concentrations in the Abadan region and forced them to retreat after killing 19 of them and destroying 1 field gun, 1 excavator, 2 observation posts and 4 ammunition stockpiles.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 415 dead and 2 tanks, 4 field guns, 1 vehicle, 1 excavator, 6 observation posts, 5 ammunition stockpiles and 2 fighter planes destroyed.

II. Today our planes launched two raids against the enemy concentrations and positions in the Nowsud and Ilam regions, scoring direct hits and returning safely to base.

III. Our losses:

- A. In personnel: 36 martyrs in all sectors.
- B. In equipment: Two tanks, three personnel carriers, eight vehicles and one mortar were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 May 1981

Communique No 325

JN031730 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 May 81

[Communique No 325 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 3 May 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: With heroic enthusiasm and drive, the soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah continued to pound the forces of the charlatan Persian regime in the operational sectors last night and today with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses.

- A. One infantry position, one vehicle, one observation post and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region. At noon today our fighters shot down an enemy Phantom plane in the dogfight in the same region.
- B. Two were killed and two infantry positions were destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
- C. Seven were killed and one field gun was destroyed in the Mimak region in front of our units' positions in Sayf Sa'd.
- D. One of our brave forward units engaged an enemy infantry force supported by artillery in the Mehran region and hit it hard with various weapons, forcing it to flee after sustaining 97 dead and a large number of wounded. The enemy also lost two dead and one observation post destroyed in the same region.
- E. Our units hit an enemy concentration near their positions in the Dezful region, killing 86, whose bodies are still on the battlefield, and wounding a large number.
- F. Four vehicles, one loaded with hardware, and one missile launcher were destroyed in the Shush region.

G. Two vehicles carrying charlatan Khomeyni guards were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.

H. Seven were killed and one vehicle loaded with hardware and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Ahvaz region.

I. Our units hit with various weapons enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan region, inflicting the following losses: 41 dead and 1 tank, 1 field gun, 1 vehicle loaded with hardware and 4 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.

Thus, total known enemy losses are: 242 killed plus 3 infantry positions, 1 tank, 2 field guns, 9 vehicles, 1 missile launcher, 2 observation posts, 6 stockpiles of hardware and 1 phantom plane.

II. Our air force planes today mounted two raids on enemy personnel and vehicle concentrations in the Nowsud and Derful regions and scored direct hits before returning safely to base.

III. Our units found in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab 34 enemy dead left behind by the enemy before retreating in the recent battles. They were buried in the same region.

IV. It has been ascertained that enemy losses on 22 and 23 April in our units' operations in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin were 18 killed and 2 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.

V. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 12 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: Three vehicles, one field gun and one missile launcher damaged.

VI. At 1425 today enemy planes raided civilian targets and residential areas in the Dukan region. They were repulsed by our ground resistance and forced to flee.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 May 1981

'SOURCE' DENIES IRANIAN CLAIM OF DOWNING MIG'S

Baghdad INA in Arabic 1638 GMT 2 May 81

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 2 May (INA)--An official Iraqi source has announced that the Iraqi planes did not launch any raid on the Iranian province of Kermanshah today. In an exclusive statement to INA here this evening, the official source denied that the two planes Tehran claimed to have downed by Iranian antiaircraft fire were Iraqi. He stressed that it was the Iraqi antiaircraft fire that downed two Iranian planes. He added that the body of one of their pilots is with the Iraqi forces at the front.

LIBYA SAID TO PAY NO FUNDS TO PALESTINIANS

JN281816 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Apr 81

[Text] Informed sources told INA in Paris today that the financial report submitted to the recent session of the Palestine National Council has revealed that Al-Qadhdhafi's regime has not paid even one penny to the Palestinian revolution. These sources added that the financial report exposes the falsehood of some Arab regimes, including the Libyan regime, which claim to be giving aid to the Palestinian revolution.

KING HUSAYN ADDRESSES LABOR DAY CELEBRATIONS

JN011126 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn patronized the mammoth celebrations held today, Labor Day, at the cultural palace in Husayn Youth City. His majesty delivered a comprehensive pan-Arab speech in which he reviewed the major role the workers are playing in Jordan's economic boom, particularly as Labor Day coincides with the commencement of the next 5-year plan in Jordan. His majesty hailed the steadfastness of Arab workers in occupied Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. He also praised their heroic stand against Israel's challenges and oppressive practices.

AD-DUSTUR CRITICIZES THATCHER REMARKS ON MIDEAST

JN040945 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 4 May 81

[From the press review]

[Text] British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher has repeated the statement she made at the end of her Arab Gulf tour, a statement to the effect that any endeavors to establish peace in the area should depend on a principal role by the United States and that any European initiative would be fruitless if it is not based on this course.

Commenting on the subject, AD-DUSTUR writes: If this British stand expresses the entire European position toward peace in the Middle East, it is therefore bound to abrogate the European role as well as the initiative about which much talk has been made during the past 2 years.

If we assume that this statement reflects the European stand on the Palestinian issue, it is therefore difficult to consider it as representing the European stand on Lebanon, since France, a few weeks ago, was talking about a main step aimed at establishing peace. France's retreat from this initiative, which was opposed by several Arab and Lebanese quarters, does not mean that France has dismissed the Lebanese problem and turned its back to it on the pretext that the United States will perform the mission or the biggest part of it.

Continuing, the paper says: It is true that the United States has condemned the shelling of Sidon and the acts of violence in Lebanon, but this condemnation was always intended to acquit Israel of the crime and to make it appear as one of the combatant parties in Lebanon.

During the recent Lebanese crisis the Israeli news media, through its Prime Minister Begin, said that the United States has given the green light to Israel to attack Lebanon. In the wake of the downing of the two Syrian planes [as heard] and the intervention of international sides in the crisis which erupted after the incident, the U.S. role assumed another shape, namely, implementing Israel's wishes in Lebanon but doing so through diplomatic means. Nevertheless, the Israeli officials continue to threaten to use the Israeli Air Force to destroy the missiles Syria set up in the Al-Biq'a' area after the incident. This raises surprises and questions: If the Israeli planes can destroy these missiles, where is the danger represented by these missiles to Israel and why this uproar about them?

In conclusion AD-DUSTUR says: Lebanon is first and foremost the one that will pay the price for any military operation that might take place in it between Syria and Israel. The U.S. stand remains unchanged: Supporting Israel irrespective of its aggressions and mistakes. Is this the European stand on Lebanon, which a few weeks ago sympathized over Lebanon's wounds and tragedy? If this is the case, is this the positive development about which scores of European officials talked during their visits to the area?

We see that Mrs Thatcher's statement is a sign indicating a negative stand that is unacceptable to the Arabs and serves neither the relations between nor the interests of Europe and the Arab world.

SHAM'UN DISPUTES REPORT OF SYRIA-ISRAEL ACCORD

NC021504 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Commenting on a BBC report regarding the existence of a Syrian-Israeli agreement on what is happening in Lebanon, particularly on the deployment of the missiles in the Al-Biqa' area, President Camille Sham'un said:

I do not believe what the BBC has said, and my belief in the news broadcast by the BBC Arabic service does not exceed 50 percent, because those who supervise this service are Palestinians who always disseminate the news which suits their interests. For this reason, I think that it is unlikely that there is an agreement between Syria and Israel.

In reply to another question regarding the deployment of SAM [surface-to-air missiles] missiles in Al-Biqa' said: These missiles are primarily deployed against Israeli aircraft, and this is not in the interest of the Israeli planes which always roam the skies of Lebanon. This refutes the news of the BBC Arabic service.

MINISTER RESPONDS TO AS-SADAT REMARKS ON LEBANON

NC032224 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 2 May 81

[3 May statement issued by Information Minister Michel Iddih--read by announcer]

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat's May Day speech in which he dealt with the Lebanese crisis should make us ponder on some of its contents, particularly its reference to the role of His Excellency President Sarkis.

Lebanon's interests, the way to tackle the Lebanese crisis and the means available for this throughout the period of this war--a war the severity of which is known to all Lebanese and Arab brothers--are matters that President Ilyas Sarkis is more familiar with than anyone else and on which he takes the suitable and bold decisions at the appropriate times. In this regard, we would like to remind President as-Sadat that since the date of the Riyadh and Cairo conferences and until the date of his visit to Israel, President Sarkis had not ceased asking President as-Sadat to include Egyptian forces in the Arab Deterrent Forces and that his answer had always been negative.

Lebanon has suffered a great deal from the lack of serious words and actions, and it appeals to all those who really wish to assist it to leave aside their differences and objectives, and to stop exploiting Lebanon and its people and stop using it as an arena to settle their accounts.

SYRIAN ENVOY MEETS FRANJIYAH, MAKES STATEMENT

NC030642 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] [Syrian] Brig Gen Muhammad al-Khuli yesterday arrived in Zgharta, met with former President Sulayman Franjiah and handed him a message from President Hafiz al-Asad.

Answering a question, Al-Khuli said: We wanted to be in direct contact with former President Franjiah and to consult with him on various topics.

He was asked: Did former President Franjiah give you a reply message, and how do you view his position in the light of the present circumstances? He answered: Yes, of course, former President Franjiah did give me a reply message for President al-Asad. We are always in agreement with him.

Answering another question, Al-Khuli said: The government has placed the Lebanese question on the road to settlement.

On the purpose of the recent Israeli aggressions, he said: Israel does not want accord. It wants to disturb it in every way, whether in the south, north or elsewhere.

On the continued Israeli shelling of the south and Israeli intentions, he said: We do not know Israel's intentions, but we will defend when necessary.

AFP REPORTS MILITARY, POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

NC021650 Paris AFP in English 1633 GMT 2 May 81

[Excerpt] Beirut, 2 May (AFP)--Hopes for a rapid settlement in embattled south Lebanon were dampened today by new military actions waged by both Lebanese Christian militia and Syrian troops. With Syrian-Lebanese negotiations set to resume on Monday, the militia recaptured one of the crests of Mount Sannin and refused Syria's request that they disavow Israel's intervention of Tuesday, reliable sources said.

Meanwhile, the Syrians have reinforced their military positions of the plain of Al-Biq'a'.

In addition to these operations, news that Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's return to the negotiating table had been put off until Monday was seen in Lebanese political circles as a bad sign. But, according to Arab diplomatic circles here, these developments are simply part of a "war of nerves" which inevitably precedes major negotiations.

Arab sources said it was to be expected that the militia would attempt to come to the talks in the best military situation possible and would refuse to drop one of the best cards in their hand: The threat of a new Israeli intervention in the Al-Biq'a'.

The Arab sources added that Mr Khaddam, who heads the Syrian negotiating team, had probably put off his visit in order to find out more about current dealings between Washington, Moscow, New (?York) and Jerusalem relevant to the situation in the strife-torn region. Furthermore, the sources said, Syria's reinforcements should be viewed as an attempt to avoid giving the impression that the Syrian Army was giving in to pressure from Jerusalem.

LEBANESE UNIT TAKES UP POSITIONS WITH UN FORCES

NC021548 Paris AFP in English 1530 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Beirut 2 May (AFP)--A 100-man Lebanese Army unit, sent to strife-torn south Lebanon on Thursday, has taken up positions alongside United Nations peacekeeping forces in the villages of Tibnin, (Bir Salasil), Safad al-Battikh and Jumayjimah, press correspondents in the region reported. Quoting a Lebanese military source, the correspondents said that a second unit would be sent to south Lebanon within the next three days and would be deployed in three villages located at the border of the conservative enclave controlled by rebel Major Sa'd Haddad.

The Lebanese Army was originally to deploy troops in those villages--Shaqra, Bra'shit and Majdal Silm--last March, but plans were changed after an incident in Al-Qantarah in which 12 Nigerian soldiers with the UN force were killed and several wounded. Following the attack, both Maj Haddad's conservative militia and Israel opposed any deployment of Lebanese regular army forces at the edge of the enclave.

LEBANON REPORTEDLY TO ASK SYRIA TO LEAVE ZAHLAH

NC030720 Maj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0655 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] We have just been handed this news: This morning's reports state that the Lebanese official working paper, which will be handed to Minister Khaddam tomorrow, will demand that the Syrians remove the siege imposed on Zahlah and that the Syrians evacuate Sannin and the ridges around the besieged city, on the understanding that the Lebanese Army will take the place of the Syrian Army of occupation in this area. Furthermore, the working paper will also demand that the Lebanese Army should take the place of the Palestine Liberation Army on the contact lines in the above-mentioned capital [as heard].

These reports received this morning add that Khaddam had informed the Lebanese authorities that the Al-Biqa' valley is vital for Syria's security and that Syria is not reassured about the situation. Therefore, Syria will continue to reserve for itself the right to observe those who enter or exit from Zahlah, on the understanding that this observation is effected with the permission of the Syrian [Arab] Deterrent [Forces] Command.

HADDAD COMMENTS ON CURRENT LEBANESE SITUATION

NC020753 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 2 May 81

[Comments by free Lebanon commander Maj Sa'd Haddad; place and date not given--read by announcer]

[Text] 1. Following the assassination of Dr (Hanniba'l Bisharah 'Atiyah) of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, we wonder when will the members of this party understand that their presence is undesirable among the ranks of the so-called patriotic movement? Perhaps they will understand this point following the assassination of Ina'm Ra'd at the hands of his bitter allies. Whatever is to happen will happen soon enough for those with eyes to see it happen.

2. Saboteur number one Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] acts as if he were the legitimate president of Lebanon. He submits complaints to the Security Council against Israel on Lebanon's behalf. The spokesman of Khalid al-Fahum states that he supports reconciliation among the Lebanese. Therefore, we tell the saboteurs that there will be no reconciliation as long as even one saboteur remains in Lebanon. If you are concerned about the Lebanese, the only thing you are required to do is to leave Lebanon and go to the rich and large Arab states.

3. It has been proved that the Syrians have deliberately hampered activities at the harbor and the airport in order to divert all the commercial ships and planes to Syria to revive its economy.

4. The recent events have shown that Syria has merely been a paper tiger, because Syria has not been able to overcome the Lebanese militias. On the contrary, these militias have inflicted heavy losses of life and equipment on Syria. Israel had hardly raised the stick than hundreds of Syrian soldiers began rebelling and deserting. The 'Alawite regime was in danger of collapsing. Therefore, Al-Asad immediately donned sheepskin in Lebanon. He began calling for help from all the countries of the world. Thus, the legend of Syria, the leader of the states of steadfastness and confrontation, has fallen. Therefore, I suggest to Hafiz al-Asad to change this title to the title of "Syria, the leader of deception." I also ask him to withdraw his forces from Lebanon forthwith and join the peace negotiations with Israel and Egypt, not to serve these two countries, but to serve the Syrian people.

SUMMIT TALKS WITH BANGLADESH HELD IN DAMASCUS

JN931955 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 May 81

[Excerpts] Damascus--Official talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman began at the presidential palace at 1800 today. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and Mohammad Shamsul Haq, Bangladesh foreign affairs minister, took part in these talks. An expanded meeting was then held.

During these two meetings the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and ways of promoting them. They also discussed ways of bolstering cooperation between the two friendly countries. President Hafiz al-Asad explained the situation in the Middle East and President Ziaur Rahman explained the situation in Southeast Asia. The talks also dealt with the most important international issues and matters of joint interest.

Presidential Dinner Speeches

JN032124 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 3 May (SANA)--President Hafiz al-Asad has asserted that our defense of our Arab land and peoples' rights, above all their right to sovereignty over their soil and the exploitation of their wealth for their own welfare, compels us to resist the frenzied efforts to contain our region and encircle it with foreign military forces and bases to subjugate it to imperialist and Zionist control.

Speaking at a dinner banquet he hosted this evening in honor of Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahmad, President al-Asad said: We in Syria support genuine freedom everywhere in the world. Hence, our stand has been and will always be in support of the struggle of peoples for their freedom and independence. He affirmed Syria's support for the struggle of the Namibian and Azanian peoples for independence and against racism, racial discrimination, imperialism and colonialism.

Addressing President Ziaur Rahman, President al-Asad said: You are visiting us at a time when the ferocity of the onslaught of U.S. imperialism, Zionism and their agents is increasing against Syria, which is defending the most honorable issue--the Palestinian issue--and standing alongside its Arab sisters in confronting the imperialist and Zionist aggression. He added: These enemies seek to liquidate the Palestinian issue, and their scheme requires the annihilation of the Palestinian people and the creation of extensive changes in the region. This explains Israel's escalating barbaric acts of aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in their camps in Lebanon and their barbaric persecution of the Palestinian people in their occupied land. We are witnessing a sinister conspiracy to impose Israel's control over another Arab country, Lebanon, and to divide it.

President al-Asad stressed that our people with their masses and under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party are determined to topple this plot and foil the aims of its implementers and that our people will continue their struggle in order to achieve the peace for which we aspire--a peace in which there exists no aggression against territory and rights and a peace which puts an end to the occupation of Arab territory and the displacement of the Palestinian Arab people. He said: In this struggle we are confident that we enjoy the support of the Islamic, nonaligned and socialist bloc states as well as the support of all those who love justice and peace in the world.

President al-Asad went on to say: While defending our homeland, we are also defending our religion. Our defense of Islam requires us also to foil any attempt by imperialism to exploit it by dividing the Muslims' ranks and to foil any attempt by imperialism to use religion to serve its hostile aims.

President al-Asad expressed the hope that President Ziaur Rahman's first visit to Syria will be an introduction to fulfill our desire, which is undoubtedly a mutual desire, to strengthen friendship and expand the various forms of cooperation between Syria and Bangladesh. He added: We are certain that the path is paved for the attainment of this desire. The bonds of Islam join us together and the nonaligned principles guide us: we are two countries belonging to the Third World, struggling for the good and welfare of the Third World's peoples. Within this context I can also confidently say that we are brothers in the struggle against the hostile racist Zionism, which has desecrated our religious sanctities and occupied our Arab territory.

President al-Asad expressed his deep appreciation for the fraternal stand adopted by Bangladesh under President Ziaur Rahman's leadership toward supporting and backing our just struggle for the sake of rescuing our religious sanctities, liberating our occupied territory and restoring the Palestinian Arab people's usurped rights. He expressed great hope that his meeting with President Ziaur Rahman will answer the two peoples' hopes in consolidating the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

In his dinner speech President Ziaur Rahman stressed that there can be no lasting peace in the Middle East except through Israel's total and unconditional withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the restoration of the heroic Palestinian people's rights, including their right to establish their state on the soil of their homeland. He said: We reject the oppressive Zionist attempt to annex Jerusalem as its eternal, indivisible capital. This attempt is illegal, null and void. It harms the feeling of both Muslims and Christians. We strongly denounce the Zionist attempt to annex the Golan Heights. This is a blatant violation of ethics, principles and international law, we call on the world community to stand as one against this illegal practice by the Zionist regime and compel it to end its aggression by returning the Golan Heights to Syrian sovereignty.

The Bangladesh president said: We view with regret and anxiety the present (?situation) in Lebanon [passage indistinct]. We sincerely hope that national accord will be established through the joint efforts to reconcile all the parties. We hope that peace, order, and complete respect of Lebanon's sovereignty and regional safety will be achieved.

The Bangladesh president denounced the policy of apartheid practiced by the racist regime in South Africa. He reiterated his support for the peoples of Azania and Namibia in their just struggle for freedom and justice. He called for the establishment of a new international economic order based on equality and justice and promoting permanent world peace.

[Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic at 1215 GMT on 4 May 81 adds that "President Ziaur Rahman and his wife left Damascus at 0945 today at the end of their official visit to Syria."]

AL-ASAD RECEIVES LIBYA'S JABIR AT-TURAYKI

JN021131 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received this morning Brig Gen [rank as heard] Abu Bakr Yunis [Jabir], commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, and Er 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of liaison for foreign affairs. The president was briefed during the meeting on the results of Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi's talks in Yugoslavia, the USSR and Bulgaria. The discussions focused on the situation in the Arab area, particularly in the Lebanese arena.

JANA Report

LD022038 Tripoli JANA in English 1803 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 2 May (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander-in-chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, today met President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria. The meeting was attended by the Libyan Arab secretary of foreign liaison, [Dr 'Abd as-Salamat-Turayki], the Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and the Syrian defence minister, General Mustafa Talas. The meeting which lasted about three hours reviewed the situation in Lebanon and Brigadier Yunis Jabir was given a detailed account of the recent explosive events. The two sides also discussed coordination between the Jamahiriyyah, Syria, Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement in confronting the conspiracy against Lebanon and the Arab region. Brigadier Yunis Jabir briefed President al-Asad of the results of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's recent visit to the U.S.S.R., Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

President al-Asad, in his turn, expressed satisfaction for the visit and its result which he said he followed closely. According to our correspondent the meeting further discussed unionist steps between the Jamahiriyyah and Syria and the need to speed them up, as well as the question of strengthening the activities of the national Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation and the need for completing the front's political and military institutions.

FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH POLAND

JN031916 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 3 May (SANA)--An agreement on joint cooperation between the Syrian-Polish Friendship Society and the Polish-Syrian Friendship Society was signed here this morning. It was signed for Syria by Comrade Dr Sulayman Qaddah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and chairman of the Syrian-Polish Friendship Society, and for Poland by Comrade Prof (Edward Wiszniewski), chairman of the Polish-Syrian Friendship Society.

The signing ceremony was attended by Dr 'Abd al-Jabbar ad-Dahhak, minister of oil and natural resources and deputy chairman of the society, the comrade member of the Executive Bureau, the Polish delegation and the Polish charge d'affaires in Damascus.

In a speech on this occasion Comrade Qaddah praised the level attained by the relationship linking the two peoples in the two friendly countries. He stressed that the signing of the agreement constitutes a qualitative step toward a new trend in this relationship because it will develop the means of communication between the popular organizations.

Comrade Professor (Wiszniewski) in turn praised Syria's militant role in the face of the intrigues of Zionism and its agents in the region.

The agreement contained an executive program defining the phases of cooperation between the two societies during the next 2 years.

BEGIN ASSESSES SITUATION IN LEBANON 3 MAY

TA031239 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] The Israeli Cabinet is now discussing the crisis in Lebanon. During a break in the meeting Prime Minister Begin gave reporter David Essing an up-to-date assessment of the situation in Lebanon in this special interview:

[Begin recording] [Essing] There have been reports of different proposals being discussed between Israel and Syria with regard to the situation in Lebanon. What is Israel's position today?

[Begin] No discussion whatsoever took place between us and Syria. Syria is in a state of war with Israel and we didn't even have in our mind to make any suggestions to Syria, but we talked to those who can talk to the Syrians. Especially we are in permanent contacts with the United States. The United States tries to get in touch with Syria. I say tries because until this very day Mr al-Asad didn't receive the American ambassador. He didn't see him for the last years. [sentence as heard] He meets the Soviet ambassador. He doesn't meet the American ambassador. For the American ambassador it is very difficult to get to Mr Khaddam, the foreign minister. I think 2 days ago the American ambassador saw an official in the Foreign Ministry of Syria. And so we, of course, we want peace. We want a peaceful solution also of the latest crisis and we want restoration of peaceful conditions in Lebanon. So these are the moves and I'm very appreciative of the American efforts. Let us hope there will be results.

[Question] But from what you're saying I understand there's been no real progress so far to this hour?

[Answer] No, not yet at all.

[Question] Is Israel seeking not only a cease-fire but a withdrawal of the Syrian forces to [as heard] positions they took in the recent fighting?

[Answer] No, the Syrian forces should have long ago left Lebanon. What do they have to do in Lebanon? They came there as a peacekeeping force--and they wage war, cruel war. As President as-Sadat said in Egypt, they attack Zahlah and Beirut with the gravest cruelty, kill men, women and children. I completely subscribe to these words by President as-Sadat. So what kind of a peacekeeping force is it? They should have left long ago. They should leave now. But we never promised anybody to use our army to throw them out.

[Question] Mr Begin, has there been any confirmation yet of Syrian missiles in Lebanon?

[Answer] Confirmation. I said we still are checking. Well, I can say we are still checking but probably there are such missiles.

[Question] There are missiles, Syrian missiles in Lebanon?

[Answer] Yes, probably.

[Question] And is it true that Israel is going along with a diplomatic attempt trying to resolve this?

[Answer] This is a very grave development. As I told you, we would prefer any crises to be solved peacefully and through diplomatic efforts.

[Essing] Thank you very much Prime Minister Begin. [end recording]

No War Expected

TA040645 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] Last night Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that, in his opinion, no war with Syria was to be expected, despite the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon. Syrian President al-Asad is not insane, Mr Begin said, and he evaluates correctly Israel's and Syria's forces. However, the current situation does contain dangers. In the prime minister's view, however, there is no risk of a general confrontation.

Mr Begin repeated that Israel would not permit the Christian minority in Lebanon to be liquidated, whether in the south of the country or in the north. A continuation of the bombings of Christian villages in Lebanon would be considered by Israel as an attempt to liquidate the Christians in that country, Mr Begin stressed. He was speaking in an interview with the U.S. weekly TIME.

BEGIN BRIEFS PERES, ARENS ON LEBANON SITUATION

TA031624 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1558 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] A short while ago Prime Minister Menahem Begin ended a meeting with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres and the head of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, MK Moshe Arens. The subject of the meeting was the situation in Lebanon. [interruption in transmission]

The prime minister briefed Knesset Members Moshe Arens and Shim'on Peres about the situation in Lebanon and the government's position on this situation. Prime Minister Begin listened to their remarks on the situation. Upon leaving the meeting the two refused to divulge details of the meeting and agreed to make only general comments on the situation. MK Peres said:

[Begin recording] At this stage I think that a diplomatic effort is being made to remove the missile bases from their present locations. We also think that the presence of these missiles in the Lebanese Al-Biq'a' constitute a problem for Israel's defense and every effort should be made to get them out of there. It is clear that diplomatic efforts had better be used first. [end recording]

Mr Peres, however, refused to answer the question as to whether the opposition now stands behind the government's position. He said that there are disagreements between the opposition and the government on several issues, such as the Christians' status in Lebanon. Peres said that the opposition does not think that the Christians face a danger of liquidation and therefore Israel should help them to help themselves and not intervene directly in events. As for the chances of the diplomatic efforts for the removal of the Syrian missiles from Lebanon, the head of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, MK Moshe Arens, said it is not certain that these efforts will indeed succeed.

[Begin recording] [Arens:] As you know, efforts are being made in this direction and everyone indeed hopes that they will indeed succeed. However, we here have business with a dictator, with Al-Asad, and it is very difficult to foresee his future steps.

[Razi Barqay] In other words, there is a possibility that nonpolitical solutions will be sought?

[Arens] This possibility certainly exists, to our regret. We must say that there is a possibility that the diplomatic efforts will not succeed. [end recording]

SHAMIR INTERVIEWED ON SITUATION IN LEBANON

TA012008 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 1 May 81

[Interview of Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir by correspondent Yoran Ronen on events in Lebanon--live]

[Text] [Question] Mr Shamir, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that he was not optimistic; he described the situation in Lebanon as grave, serious. What is your description of the situation in Lebanon? Is there a dangerous escalation, an eve of confrontation with Syria?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the situation is serious. I can only say that all of Israel's activity, both political and military, is aimed at preventing war, preventing military confrontation. What the results will be--it is difficult at this moment to see or to predict. In any event, we are keeping a close watch on the situation; we are deciding in accordance with the developments and I hope--and we very much hope--that we will prevent a confrontation.

[Question] Would you also say, Mr Shamir, that there is joint pressure on Syria by Israel and the United States for it to refrain from confrontation?

[Answer] I do not know if this is joint pressure. The United States is working in its own way. I must say that its diplomatic activity is most far-reaching and broad. In the meantime, it is hard to see any results. We, for our part, are prepared to wait as long as it is possible to wait.

[Question] What, really, is that point? What is that red line which from our viewpoint must not on any account be crossed?

[Answer] The Government of Israel has made a very clear decision. It said that it would prevent Syria from taking over control of Lebanon and it would prevent the advance of Syria's attempts to liquidate the Christians in Lebanon. As soon as the situation becomes graver from that aspect, that the Syrian taking over control progresses, the liquidation of the Christians also progresses; at that moment Israel must intervene.

[Question] Are you prepared to be a little more specific, Mr Shamir, and tell us whether there is an operative decision according to which Israel will act in Lebanon again, if there really are no results from the political contacts, as we acted this week when the two Syrian helicopters were downed?

[Answer] There are lines of action. There are certain rules, but I do not think that I have to inform anyone of them.

[Question] That being so, Mr Shamir, there is amazement about the Syrian missiles in the Lebanese hills. Yesterday the prime minister announced that the matter was not yet checked; he was not sure that there were missiles. In contrast to this, Washington is certain that there are missiles; Damascus is certain that there are missiles. We have even heard that people in the United States have seen those missiles. Is there not a certain contradiction here between our announcement and the other ones?

[Answer] I do not think that there are contradictions here, nor do I think that we have to always announce what we know and what we do not know. We will act in accordance with our decisions.

[Question] But has there not been a blow here to the prime minister's credibility, when he announces that, in fact, we were not sure that there were any missiles?

[Answer] He apparently knew what he was saying.

[Question] Mr Shamir, the director general of your ministry, Mr David Kimche, said yesterday in an interview with the BBC that Israel understood that Syria had an interest in the Lebanese hills, an interest that permitted it to position its antiaircraft missiles. Will we be able to reach any agreement with Syria concerning the positioning of those missiles?

[Answer] The remarks by the director general of the Foreign Ministry were reported incorrectly and the BBC afterward corrected them. He did not say that; but we would be prepared to reach some sort of agreement on condition that it fulfilled our expectations. That means that the Syrian taking over control of Lebanon would stop and any Syrian attempt at liquidating the Christian element would stop.

[Question] Do you see any realistic chance of any such agreement with Syria at the moment?

[Answer] To my regret, I cannot say that there is any chance or that I see any chance on the horizon, but we must always hope.

[Question] Mr Shamir, has there been massive U.S. pressure on us to moderate our position and to avoid military actions--to exhaust all the political processes?

[Answer] I must say that there has not been any U.S. pressure. It is clear that there is a U.S. desire, which we also share, to prevent bloodshed, to prevent military confrontations; but there has not been any pressure.

[Question] This being so, what does the United States intend to do other than apply political pressure on Syria? Is it, for example, working via Moscow to put pressure on Damascus?

[Answer] It is working by way of all the political channels.

[Question] Including the Soviet Union?

[Answer] Including the Soviet Union. We do not, perhaps, know all the details. We know a great deal about the U.S. efforts. To our great regret, to this day they have not produced positive results.

[Question] And neither have we received any signals indicating any Syrian willingness for compromises with us?

[Answer] There are various reports but they are not yet apparent on the surface.

[Question] That means that there is still room for signals and for signs that the Syrians would be prepared to reach an agreement with us?

[Answer] There is always such a possibility, that one day they will understand that they cannot go too far, that they must consider Israel's policy. We hope that that day will come quickly.

[Question] Do you think that Syria is also prepared for the possibility of war with Israel?

[Answer] I hope not but, in any event, we must take every possibility into account.

[Question] In conclusion, Mr Shamir, let us recall the remarks the West German chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, made yesterday when he returned from a visit to Saudi Arabia. There was almost a complete denial in his remarks of Germany's historic commitment to Israel when he said that Israel was interfering with the rapprochement between Germany and Saudi Arabia. What is your reaction to those remarks?

[Answer] I have not yet managed to see the full text of Chancellor Schmidt's remarks but I must say that there is something shocking in what has been published. Along with completely ignoring and evading Germany's responsibility toward the Jewish people for the 6 million murdered by Germans, all of a sudden there is a new moral commitment by the chancellor to those who want to continue with the same job that the Nazi Germans did not manage to finish. I only hope that there are many people in Germany who do not identify themselves with the chancellor's remarks.

RETURN TO STATUS QUO IN LEBANON DEMANDED

TA031301 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 3 May 81 pp 1, 7

[By Arye Tzimuqi, Yehoshu'a Halamish and Yehezqel Hame'iri]

[Excerpts] Israel has decided to permit the United States to work through diplomatic channels to return the situation in Lebanon to what it previously had been. Israel will wait for a few days before deciding on military steps.

Israel is demanding a return to the status quo in Lebanon, in three fields:

- the removal of the Syrian missiles from the Lebanese hills region;
- bringing down the Syrian forces from Sannin hill, which overlooks Zahlah;
- the dismantling of new Syrian positions established over the last few weeks.

It has been reported in Jerusalem that the issue of the positioning of the Syrian missiles is still being checked. According to a report from various sources, the number of missile batteries the Syrians have brought into Lebanon is not large but there is concern in Jerusalem over the very fact that the missiles have been brought in.

Special attention in Jerusalem is being devoted to the sharp public attack made by President as-Sadat against the Syrian intervention in Lebanon and also to his warning against Israeli intervention in that country.

POLITICAL OPTIONS ON MISSILES BELIEVED EXHAUSTED

TA040912 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 May 81 pp 1, 15

[By Ya'akov Erex, Ilan Kfir and 'Oded Granot]

[Excerpt] Israel will have to react militarily because Damascus has not complied with the appeals transmitted to it to remove missiles from the Al-Biqa' region in Lebanon. This is the assumption in Israel. Yesterday Syria even exacerbated the military situation by sending a battery of surface-to-air missiles of the improved SAM-2 type, as reported by foreign sources. These missiles control a larger airspace than the SAM-6 missiles positioned earlier in the Lebanese valley and increase the threat posed to Israeli Air Force planes.

Elements in Israel assume that, in fact, the political options have been exhausted and that what is left is to adopt a practical way to remove this threat from Lebanese territory. The IDF forces are now standing by, enabling the political level to have a "time out" granted at U.S. request. So far all U.S. attempts to restore the previous military situation in the region have failed.

"If the reports on the introduction of additional Syrian missiles are proven true, this will constitute a new situation that will call for a renewed assessment of developments," a senior political source in Jerusalem said this morning. It is believed in Jerusalem that the missile crisis in Lebanon has worsened and that Syria's demonstrative ignoring of all appeals may bring the moment of military decision closer.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON ETHIOPIA-KENYA-SUDAN MEETING

LD022155 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1714 GMT 2 May 81 EA

[Joint communique of the consultative ministerial committee meeting of socialist Ethiopia, the Republic of Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Sudan]

[Text] After the agreement reached by the governments of the three countries to hold another meeting of the consultative ministerial committee of Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan, which was first established in June 1973, the committee held its second session 29-30 April 1981.

In conformity with the charters, principles and declarations of the OAU, United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement, and in accordance with the steps to maintain and strengthen the good-neighbor relations and cooperation taken by Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and commander in chief of the revolutionary army; His Excellency Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan; and His Excellency Daniel arap Moi, president of the Republic of Kenya, believing that the strengthening of relations among the three countries will enhance the common interests of the peoples of their respective countries and will serve the interest of peace, stability, security and cooperation in the region, Africa and the rest of the world, the three parties, Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan, have designed a working procedure to strengthen the cooperation among them.

During the talks at the consultative ministerial meeting of the three countries, leading the Ethiopian delegation was Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member; and taking part were Comrade Tibebe Bekele, permanent secretary in the Foreign Ministry; Comrade Mengiste Desta, ambassador of socialist Ethiopia to the Republic of Kenya; Comrade Yilma Tadesse, ambassador of socialist Ethiopia to the Democratic Republic of Sudan; Comrade Hailu Woldeamanuel, head of the Africa and Middle East Department of the Foreign Ministry; Comrade Fissaha Yimer, head of the Legal Department of the Foreign Ministry; Comrade Tesfaye Kabtihakem, head of the Press and Information Department of the Foreign Ministry; Comrade Daniel Kinde, deputy head of the Policy and Research Department of the Foreign Ministry; Comrade Wossen Besha, counselor in the Africa and Middle East Department of the Foreign Ministry; Comrade (Ismael Hasan), counselor at the embassy of socialist Ethiopia in the Democratic Republic of Sudan; Comrade (Tesfaye Reta), counselor in the Foreign Ministry; and other government officials.

The delegation of the Republic of Kenya was led by His Excellency Dr Robert Ouka, member of the Kenya Parliament and foreign minister, while those who took part were Mr Muchemi, permanent secretary at the Foreign Ministry; His Excellency Ambassador Nganatha, ambassador of Kenya to socialist Ethiopia; Mr Odongo, head of the Africa Department in the Foreign Ministry; Mr (Malguwava), assistant secretary in the office of the president; Dr Olwa, senior planning officer at the Ministry of Economic Planning and Community Affairs, and other officials of the Kenya Government.

The Sudanese delegation was led by His Excellency Sayed Muhammad Mubarak, foreign minister of Sudan; while those taking part were His Excellency Ambassador Mirghani Sulayman Khali, ambassador of Sudan to socialist Ethiopia; His Excellency Mr 'Uthman Abdallah as-Samahuni, director of the Africa Department at the Foreign Ministry; Mr (Mustafa Hasan Ahmad), minister in the Embassy of Sudan in Addis Ababa; Mr 'Uthman Muhammad Uthman al-Birayr, counselor in the Foreign Ministry; Mr Ahmad ash-Shaykh, second secretary in the embassy of Sudan in Addis Ababa, and other officials of the Government of Sudan.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, received and held talks with the ministers of Kenya and Sudan. The Kenyan and Sudanese delegations were also invited to attend the May Day celebrations in Addis Ababa.

The tripartite consultative ministerial committee meeting was held in an atmosphere of understanding and brotherhood. The committee held talks on relations among the three parties in the spheres of transport and communications, economic, trade, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation, and trilateral issues concerning border security and others.

After assessing existing cooperation among the three countries, the tripartite ministerial consultative committee reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen cooperation in all spheres and at all levels for the mutual benefit of the peoples of the three countries and to extend and deepen their relations. In connection with this, after deciding to revive the economic subcommittee established in June 1973, the committee further resolved to establish the following three additional subcommittees: 1) transport and communications; 2) cultural, scientific and technical cooperation; and 3) border and security issues.

After assessing the situation in the region, the committee reiterated its conviction that relations among the three countries should be based on adherence to the principles of respect for territorial integrity, sovereignty and equality, the inviolability of borders, and non-interference in the internal affairs of others. In connection with this, to enable lasting peace and stability in the region and to strengthen close cooperation, the three parties reaffirmed their readiness to adhere to the above-mentioned principles in relations with each other.

The committee noted with concern the heightening of international tension in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean region and called on all concerned to observe the resolutions of the United Nations, OAU and the Nonaligned Movement calling for the region to be a zone of peace. In this connection the committee has expressed its support for the coming UN-sponsored meeting on the Indian Ocean, to be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in 1981.

On the Middle East, the delegates of Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan reaffirmed their conviction that a just and lasting peace can only be achieved if Israel withdraws from all occupied Arab lands, including Jerusalem, and the Palestinian Arab people are able to exercise their inalienable rights, including the establishment of an independent state.

The committee reaffirmed its unswerving support for anti-imperialist, anticolonialist, anti-neocolonialist, antiapartheid, antiracist, antisecessionist, and antiexpansionist struggles.

The committee has also pledged to give its full support to the genuine struggles of peoples under the yoke of racism and colonialism. The tripartite committee reaffirmed its unswerving solidarity with and continued support for the national liberation movements in southern Africa.

Cognizant of the arrogant refusal of the Pretoria regime to grant independence to Namibia, which it illegally occupies, and the threat which this arrogance poses to international peace and security, the committee in line with the UN Charter, Article seven, calls on the Security Council to impose a wide and practical embargo that will include oil on South Africa.

The committee also reaffirmed its support for the liberation struggle waged by SWAPO, the legitimate and sole representative of the Namibian people.

The tripartite meeting also reaffirmed its full support for the struggles waged by liberation movements in Namibia and South Africa and the frontline states for the liberation of South Africa from colonialism, racism and apartheid. The delegation also noted with concern that the pressure exerted by the racist South African regime to destabilize the frontline states is serious and concerns the whole of Africa.

The committee recalled the OAU resolution to hold its 37th ministerial session and its 18th summit meeting in the sisterly Republic of Kenya and, in view of the advantages the occasion may bring to the region, expressed its solidarity with the people and Government of Kenya and pledged to lend its support for the success of the session.

The tripartite committee, convinced of the fact that the working procedure designed by the three sides could make important contributions toward the enhancement of the aims and objectives of the OAU, declares its readiness to open its doors for committee membership by countries in the region which are strictly committed to observe and be subject to the charters and principles of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement.

The foreign ministers of the Sudanese Democratic Republic and the Republic of Kenya expressed their heartfelt appreciation to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, the people and Government of Ethiopia for the brotherly hospitality accorded to them and their delegations.

The tripartite committee has agreed to hold the next meeting in Khartoum in November.

GUINEA AIDE BACKS BROAD WEST AFRICAN ENTITY

LD011003 Paris LE CONTINENT in French 24 Apr 81 p 3

[Aliou Diongue interview with Guinea Minister of External Affairs and Cooperation Abdoulaye Toure in Paris: "CEAO Should Move Toward Complete Merger With CEDEAO"--date not given]

[Text] What was Guinea External Affairs Minister Abdoulaye Toure doing in Paris so close to the French presidential election? Was he showing his solidarity with the man who was an architect of the reconciliation between Conakry and Paris? Why is Sekou Toure's visit to France constantly being postponed when officially there are no clouds over Franco-Guinea relations?

Mr Abdoulaye Toure refused to answer those questions which are, nonetheless, fundamental. He gave no indication of why he refused. But silence is certainly not the best way of playing down an issue, and remarks which are intended to be cryptic sometimes betray a basic idea. This was the case when Mr Toure quickly asserted that since "Valery Giscard d'Estaing's memorable visit" to Guinea "there has been no dispute" between the two countries. We take note of that.

The minister was equally forceful in his refusal to answer what he regarded as "an insincere question," namely whether Guinea has for some time been turning more towards the Western industrialized world at the expense of its traditional friends. Mr Toure introduced a rather interesting nuance on this point: "We are now convinced more than ever," he said, "that our policy must be oriented toward all 'countries of good will' which intend to cooperate with Guinea on the basis of respect for our options."

LE CONTINENT: Guinea's reconciliation with the Ivory Coast and Senegal has still not led to your country joining the Senegal River Development Organization and the West African Economic Community [CEAO]. (note: The CEAO, of which Guinea is not a member, comprises six states while the West African States Economic Community [CEDEAO] comprises all 16 West African states, including Guinea). What are the remaining obstacles to membership?

Abdoulaye Toure: Let's be accurate. The CEAO comprises some French-speaking countries belonging to a given monetary zone. Guinea has never belonged to that subregional trade body. On the contrary it has always hoped for a broader body comprising all African countries without exception. But we consider that grouping the countries in the West African subregion without any distinction whatever, be they French-English-or Portuguese-speaking states, is an initial step. This grouping, for which we have always called, was achieved in Lagos (Nigeria) and produced the CEDEAO. Hence Guinea thinks that the CEAO should move toward a complete and full merger with the CEDEAO. [Toure ends]

Moreover Guinea envisages the organization of security in West Africa within the framework of the CEDEAO alone. Making an apparent reference to the agreement on nonaggression and defense assistance which links the six CEAO countries to Togo, the Guinea minister stated: "We think it is preferable to have one pact rather than two or three."

LE CONTINENT: Guinea seems to have adopted a stance close to Morocco's ideas in the West Saharan conflict.

Abdoulaye Toure: Guinea is not close to Moroccan ideas. It upholds historical facts and hence the truth. Guinea has always supported the Moroccan entity on the Sahara since the Casablanca charter. (Note: Abdoulaye Toure is probably referring to the Casablanca meeting in January 1961 between so-called "progressive" countries which had supported Morocco's demands not only on the Sahara but also with regard to the newly independent Republic of Mauritania which aims to help Morocco recover the Saharan territory severed from the Moroccan Kingdom.)

The Guinea stance is in keeping with the historical facts, and history must not be falsified. The fact that a movement was formed which calls itself a liberation movement concerns those who formed it. [Toure ends]

Abdoulaye Toure's replies to questions about Guinea finances were as general as his replies to questions on the reasons for his presence in France. Questioned on the significance of the recent monetary reforms introduced in Guinea, Mr Toure stated that they are "simply an economic readjustment which heralds further stages in our economic recovery." "This phase of consolidating our currency," the minister went on to explain, "in no way" heralds a fundamental review of Guinea's whole monetary policy.

ALGERIAASH-SHA'B SEES ULTERIOR MOTIVES BEHIND U.S. RDF

LD011355 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 26 Apr 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Containing the Gulf"]

[Excerpts] The Gulf region is coming under increasingly heavy imperialist pressures because of its strategic location and oil wealth, which have made it the target of all covetous people, and also because of its military value, which enables whoever controls it to control the course of international trade and its lines of communication. Also, the existence of signs of an all-out revolution in the area has scared all the imperialist powers hostile to the progress and liberation of the region's peoples. All of which has prompted these powers to rush to control and contain the Gulf or, at least, to strengthen their foothold in it.

The imperialist and particularly the U.S. activities in the Gulf are being further intensified in order to prepare the ground for total--albeit veiled--control. The U.S. Pentagon is now trying to set up an independent command for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force [RDF] in the Gulf, and U.S. political contacts in the area are devoted to deciding the method by which this force will be formed and determining the location of its command in the Gulf region.

The setting up of the RDF and definition of its field of action clearly indicate that one of its objectives is to repress any local movement aimed at securing liberation from subservience and liberating the wealth of the area from exploitation and plunder.

In addition to the motives of control and containment, there is also the motive behind the arms deals that the imperialist powers are offering to the countries of the area. These arms deals will help strengthen means of dominating the area, despite the fact that the types of arms on offer and the conditions under which they are supplied makes them suitable for use only in local wars. Other types of arms will be used by the RDF itself when the need arises.

This leads us to a fact that imperialism is trying to conceal, namely that one of the objectives of the arms deals is to keep the area in a state of instability and tension so as to create an atmosphere facilitating domination.

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES MAY DAY MEETING ON CORRUPTION

NC021321 Paris AFP in English 1235 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Algiers, 2 May (AFP)--President Chadli Benjedid has issued a warning to "elements seeking to spread confusion" in Algeria and declared his determination to continue a campaign against corruption. Those who sought to enrich themselves had no place in ruling circles, he told a trade union meeting to mark May Day.

"In no way can we preach socialism and at the same time permit reactionary elements to remain among us or introduce themselves into our enterprises," Mr Chadli said.

Many economic officials accused of embezzlement have already been arrested since the president began a "moralisation" campaign at the start of the year. The head of state said that the "elements", having perceived the danger of the "sanitizing operation" which showed them to have taken part in "unhealthy practices", were "trying to find alliances".

Mr Chadli called for a closing of ranks against "all reactionary elements, both inside and outside" the country. "The revolution will not hesitate to use revolutionary discipline if the circumstances require it or if national unity of the socialist option are threatened," he warned.

LIBYACOMMENTARY ATTACKS U.S. MOTIVES ON LEBANON

LD030826 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland Arabic 0115 GMT 3 May 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] While the Lebanese crisis, in its early stages, was shrouded with ambiguity, the objectives behind the intensification of the situation there have now become officially clear. For the present, these objectives are confined to an American-Zionist plan aimed at the liquidation of the Palestine resistance through the partitioning of Lebanon.

The U.S. secretary of state recently announced the setting up of a special team to watch and follow the developments in Lebanon. This American expression of concern has come, of course, following the escalation of the Syrian role against the Zionist enemy in Lebanon. An official of the U.S. State Department recently revealed that U.S. President Reagan and his secretary of state knew in advance of the Zionist aggressive plan and its objectives in Lebanon. The Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA', reporting this, said that Reagan and his secretary of state have given the green light for the Zionist military intervention in southern Lebanon to create favorable conditions for American intervention in Arab affairs and particularly in Lebanon's domestic affairs.

By examining recent news reports, observers would reach this same conclusion even if it was not revealed by the American officials: The American military presence has been daily mounting in the Arab area, and with the help of the regimes of the Arabs of America, it has been taking more important positions in the region. Indeed, nothing remained except for the United States to create, through the Lebanese crisis, a pretext for justifying to the world its intervention in the Arab homeland. Otherwise what is the reason for the declaration of a state of high alert in the U.S. State Department on the pretext of following the situation in Lebanon?

Also, what is the reason for the British Embassy's call in Beirut to its citizens to think seriously of leaving Lebanon immediately. Although such a call is not of prime importance, on the face of it, it does prove that the British Embassy has information which points to an expected explosion.

JANA COMMENTS ON ABU GHAZALAH'S WASHINGTON VISIT

LD031010 Tripoli JANA in English 0805 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Paris, 3 May (JANA)--General 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, the Egyptian defence minister, said that the fact that the Jamahiriyyah possesses double the amount of arms than Egypt, poses it as a potential threat to Egypt. Speaking at an interview with the newspaper, 'the Washington POST', General Abu Ghazalah said Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, who visited Moscow this week, possesses sufficient finance as well as equipment and contacts with a super power. Furthermore, in a speech quoted by the official Egyptian MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY, the defence minister confirmed that Egypt will be sanctioning the setting up of other U.S. military bases in addition to Ra's Banas base. A joint U.S.-Egyptian communique issued last Thursday indicated the need for speeding up the export of arms to Egypt which include F-16 planes and M-60 tanks. The communique also discusses a five-year programme to develop the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Our political editor comments: This is how the Egyptian defence minister exposed his government's policy and denied As-Sadat's own statements. He pointed out that the five-year plan mentioned by As-Sadat will not achieve prosperity for the Egyptian people, nor will it provide more food for the poor and deprived or improve their make-shift housing situation.

In fact, the five-year plan aims at amassing advanced arms of all types and includes a widescale project for destruction and destabilizing peace and security in Africa. We recall As-Sadat's statements to the Egyptian magazine, OCTOBER, in which he said all hatred between us and Israel is gone forever, and that there will be no war following the October war. We also remember this assertion that America and Britain are not imperialist countries and animosity against them should, therefore, cease.

We wonder at the reason behind these advanced arms, the concentrated contacts with the U.S. administration and the joint military communiques. We wonder at the visits by the U.S. fleet to Egyptian ports. Does As-Sadat intend to throw his nets for Mediterranean fish or does he want to catch the whales of the Egyptian Sudanese Nile, which has become part of the As-Sadat empire? Any two sensible people will concede that this stock-piling of arms by As-Sadat, which he claims will not be used against Israel, U.S.A. or Britain, are intended to be used against the Libyan Arab people and their oil wealth. All the evidence and reports substantiate this strategy beyond doubt.

A revolutionary outlook demands that everything should be placed in its right perspective so that those who are unaware of the truth of the situation should be enlightened. The revolutionaries cannot be taken by surprise.

AL-QADHDHAFI RETURNS FROM USSR, SFRY VISITS

LD011328 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 May 81

[Excerpts] The commander of the revolution has concluded his successful visits to the USSR, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. The visits took place during crucial times when the Arab nation is facing a ferocious imperialist offensive and when agent regimes have been falling in the laps of imperialism and colonialism and Arab territories have been opened before American forces, foreign bases and Zionist aggressions.

The brother commander returned to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah at noon today, where he was welcomed at Tripoli international airport by Brother Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, Lt Col Mustafa al-Kharrubi, Maj al-Khuwayldi al-Humaydi and the brother secretary and members of the General People's Committee.

The brother commander left Belgrade airport this morning at the end of his visit to Yugoslavia. He was given a huge popular and official sendoff. Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY and Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, were at hand to see him off. He was also seen off by members of the Federal Executive Council, the Libyan students and officials of the Libyan People's Bureau and the Arab community in Yugoslavia.

The brother commander of the revolution met this morning with Cvijetin Mijatovic at the place where the brother commander was staying in Belgrade.

The brother commander sent a cable to Cvijetin Mijatovic on the occasion of the conclusion of his visit to Yugoslavia. The following is the text of the cable.:

As I leave your friendly country, I have the pleasure of expressing to you, to the Presidium and to the friendly Yugoslav people and government my gratitude for the great hospitality, cordiality and understanding we received.

I am confident that the results we achieved in our talks will make a great contribution to bolstering cooperation between our two peoples. Our treatment of international issues will also make a contribution toward advancing the Nonaligned Movement and its role in promoting international peace.

Please accept my utmost respects and appreciation.

[Signed] Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi.

USSR Visit Communique

For the text of the joint communique, as carried by TASS, on Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi's visit to Moscow from 27 to 29 April, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 30 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

AL-WATAN INTERVIEWS AL-QADHDHAFI ON USSR TALKS

LD011137 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 29 Apr 81 pp 1, 11

[Shakir al-Jawhari report: "Al-Qadhafi Tells AL-WATAN in Moscow: 'What Is Required Are Practical Soviet Stances in Lebanon; Moscow Is Apprehensive of the Gulf Cooperation Council'"]

[Text] Moscow--Libyan Leader Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi has emphasized the need to strengthen the relations between the Arab states and the Soviet Union. However, he has told AL-WATAN that the stances of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front states and the Soviet Union are not identical. He said that the Soviet Union is a major power and our stances cannot be completely identical to its stances. The Libyan leader disclosed to AL-WATAN that Soviet Leader Leonid Brezhnev and the Soviet leadership have finally understood Libya's stand in Chad. Moscow has declined to comment on the military aid which the Libyan Government has given so far to Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei. The Libyan leader said that the imperialist and colonialist confrontation by the United States, France and certain Arab regimes with the Libyan role in Chad and the Chadian National Government has prompted Moscow to reconsider its calculations because it has realized that Libya and Chad represent a serious threat to imperialist interests in the African Continent.

Replying to a question as to whether the joint statement which is to be issued on his talks with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev will include a reference to the situation in Chad, he said that the discussions had not touched on this matter up to the time he gave this interview in the evening of the day before yesterday [27 April] after concluding the first session of discussions.

Asked about the requests he has presented to the Soviet leadership in the name of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front states, the Libyan leader said: I asked President Brezhnev to develop the Soviet Union's political and military attitude toward the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. However, he refused to reveal the nature of the requests but confined himself to saying that what is requested of the Soviets are practical stances in Lebanon. He did not define the nature of these stances.

He said that he communicated to the Soviet leadership a request from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to clarify the proposal made by Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev for convening an international conference for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. He pointed out that 'Arafat did not understand exactly what Brezhnev had meant by his proposal.

He then referred to the different viewpoints between Libya and the Soviet Union in relation to the rejection of the two Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli conciliation [sulh] treaty. He said that Moscow rejects the two agreements and the treaty because they have led to a separate settlement between Egypt and the Zionist entity whereas Libya rejects a separate and a comprehensive political settlement alike. The Libyan leader emphasized that he will continue to assume the leadership of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front until a new summit of the front states is convened.

He pointed out that, in his capacity as current leader of the front, he has sent a number of letters--one to the Arab League requesting in the name of the front that Sudan be expelled from the league and that the same measures that have been applied to Egypt be applied to Sudan; another message to the Islamic Conference member states asking that Sudan's membership in the conference be suspended just as Egypt's membership has been suspended; and a third message to King Husayn informing him before visiting Moscow that he will not implement a former agreement between them--an agreement endorsed by the steadfastness and confrontation states' summit held in Damascus--providing for Libyan funding of a Soviet arms deal with Jordan.

He said that he has informed King Husayn in his message that he will not abide by the agreement because King Husayn reneged on his obligations and did not permit the Palestinian resistance to return to Jordan and to operate against the Zionist entity from Jordanian territories. He added: Before we buy arms for Jordan, we must know in which direction the arms are to be used.

Regarding the efforts being made to reconcile Muscat and Aden, Al-Qadhdhafi said that he is surprised at the talk about reconciliation because no reconciliation should take place with those who offer bases and facilities to the American forces. He added that Libya is diligently working to arm the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman and to have it resume its military operations against the Omani Government.

Replying to a question on the amount of response his request [talab] to the Soviet leadership has received--the request on the situation of the Arab Gulf in the light of the move to form American and British Rapid Deployment Forces and the condition made by Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sahab al-Ahmad, he said that Kuwait, Libya and the Soviet Union are agreed on rejecting the idea of these forces but Moscow is apprehensive about the formation of the Gulf States Cooperation Council.

He revealed to AL-WATAN that the Soviet Union has asked him officially to endeavor to persuade the Iranian leadership to change its hostile attitude toward the Afghan Government under the leadership of President Babrak Karmal and that Moscow is not satisfied with the Iranian attitude toward Afghanistan. However, he did not say how and when he will make this endeavor.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT ATTACKS AL-QADHDHAFI 'CONSPIRACIES'

LDO31210 Kuwait KUNA in English 1013 GMT 3 May 81

[Text] Khartoum, 3 May (KUNA)--Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has unleashed a severe attack on Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who, he said, was threatening the security of Sudan. Addressing a May Day gathering here Saturday night, the Sudanese president said "we are closely watching and following attempts by the Libyan colonel assisted by the Soviet Union to threaten the security of our country." Numayri accused the Libyan leader of trying to gain control over Sudan, its people and its resources as part of his "conspiracies to fulfill his ambitions in Africa with the assistance of the Soviet Union."

In his televised speech, the Sudanese president accused Al-Qadhdhafi of repeatedly joining hands with Sudanese opposition leaders in exile in their activities against Sudan.

In 1976 Sudan accused Libya of engineering a coup attempt against Sudan by helping opposition leaders who lived in Libya.

"The Sudan is capable of defending its territories from the conspiracies of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and it is capable of burning his fingers and chopping his feet if he dared to stretch a single span into our territories", Numayri warned. The Sudanese president declared that he would have a firm grip on the important ministries to "clear them from those who are against the regime, the corrupt and the incompetent".

An unspecified number of government employees were recently dismissed or pensioned off for what official sources here described as security reasons.

ETHIOPIAMENGISTU ADDRESSES MAY DAY RALLY IN ADDIS ABABA

LD012145 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0633 GMT 1 May 81 EA

[Address by Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, to a May Day rally in Revolution Square, Addis Ababa--live]

[Excerpt] Comrades, when we observe International Workers Day it is legitimate to review the development stage reached by our revolution, which is part of the international struggle, and the urgent tasks confronting us.

The main feature of communists is their ability to understand reality correctly and to put the struggle of the working people into a correct and lasting direction, by foreseeing the steps necessary to the change the objective reality.

Thus, in order to enable a revolution, whose aim is to build a socialist society, to achieve its goal, it is a decisive step to analyze the progress of the revolution from time to time and formulate the correct strategy and tactics demanded by the objective reality.

Since the history of the progress of our revolution is in line with this Marxist-Leninist analysis of revolutionary leadership, we have never ceased analyzing the progress of and the problems faced by our revolution from time to time, or from pointing out the direction of the struggle to prepare the working people for greater victories.

Where did we set out from and what point have we reached: Which are the tasks at present that we say are urgent? What should be done to solve problems and to ensure the progress of our revolution?

It is necessary to make clear today the contribution toward the struggle expected of every revolutionary citizen and the working people, when we renew our commitments for lasting victories in the struggle of the international working class and our revolution, which is part of this struggle, by answering these timely questions.

Once and for all we have toppled every part of the feudal order, which has been hampering the progress and prosperity of the working people for centuries, by means of the political power we seized as a result of great wisdom and sacrifice in the course of this struggle. We have boldly taken all basic steps necessary to build production relations on the bases of equality and justice in place of the feudal production relations. In order to ensure the implementation of the necessary steps, we have waged a life and death struggle under very difficult conditions with internal reactionary forces and external forces of aggression, coordinated by international imperialism. In this way we have confirmed to the people of the world once again that there is no force that can arrest a people's uprising for justice, democracy and socialism.

(?Following) our triumphant emergence from this complex struggle, (?we started) the historic chapter of reconstruction which (?dominates) the main characteristics of the present development stage of our revolution: to improve the living standards of the working people and to lay the necessary material and technical foundations for the building of a socialist society.

As we can learn from the experience of leading socialist countries and as we have noted from the limited (?experience) of our own revolution, the very difficult chapter in the course of a socialist revolution is restructuring the economic order inherited from the reactionary system to befit the building of a new society. There are a number of reasons behind the problems facing the transitional period which should be solved through the struggle of the working people and which make this process arduous.

Primarily, it is necessary to note that the greatest social change in the process of social transformation is putting means of production under the control of society. This means not only a change of ownership but it also entails methodological and organizational changes, as well as changes in thinking and outlook. Thus, in order to manage economic development systematically it is essential to outline a new economic and management doctrine and to train a great number of cadres who are efficient in the new methodology and who believe in it. One can easily imagine the difficulty of training the quality and quantity of cadres demanded by reconstruction in the situation pertaining in our country, where there is an acute shortage of professionals. Together with the change in the means of production, the work discipline based on exploitation should be replaced by a new discipline, based on comradely relationship, and love for and acceptance of one another. To attain this kind of change in discipline which existed for centuries in our country, it is clear that the building of the new discipline requires a difficult struggle.

The other factor which makes the reconstruction effort difficult is the continuation, in a refined form, of the struggle against the bourgeoisie and other exploitative classes. Because of the dictatorship of the objective reality during a transition period, the bourgeoisie continues to own some of the means of production. Although they have lost their political supremacy, they have a place in the construction of the new system: to make use of the skills they possess by virtue of the opportunity they had to learn and to acquire work experience in the old reactionary order. They will not refrain from intensifying their covert struggle to arrest the consolidation of the oppressed people's supremacy which they cannot stomach, by making use of this opportunity and their wide social connections. Since their plots (?concentrate on) impeding the construction effort and denying the revolution a strong material foundation, the vigil against the sabotage of these reactionary classes will continue, together with the struggle to accelerate economic development.

A country which is waging a socialist revolution should always be ready to defend itself against imperialist aggression and interference. It is a must to create a strong defense and to effect such readiness. Since this takes its share of the limited manpower, money and material available for the development of production forces, it is one of the things that make the process of construction difficult.

These are the main problems that face the construction process in a country that wages a socialist revolution. But, depending on the objective realities of each country, there can also be other reasons that can make the struggle even more arduous.

In this respect, as we have repeatedly tried to explain, the very backward nature of the economy inherited by the Ethiopian revolution is an additional reason that makes the construction effort more difficult than those in the leading socialist countries.

Comrades, when we rose and held aloft the banner of socialism to struggle to safeguard the Ethiopian broad masses from becoming victims once again of exploitation and oppression and to seek justice for them, we never expected the realization of our respected objectives in a short time. We were aware at the outset of the need to be prepared for a protracted struggle in order to realize the construction of a new system and society which demanded very basic changes in our society.

We view the complexity of the construction effort we have undertaken in connection with the practicality of that effort. However bitter and arduous the struggle may be, the building of a society free from exploitation and oppression is determined by the effort put into developing the economic and cultural standards of the broad masses. There is no alternative to making the necessary sacrifice to realize our objectives.

Although we have taken steps preliminary to the protracted struggle of socialist construction and although we are laying the foundations necessary for the materialization of socialist construction, we realize that urgent tasks which will shortly demand our attention are confronting us.

The shortages of basic commodities essential to the life of the working people are not completely solved. We have not reached a stage where we can claim that we have completely controlled the problem of price rises, which has greatly affected the life of the working people, although it has been improving from year to year since we started the economic and cultural development campaign.

Although we have made great efforts to solve the problems created during the past years regarding the exchange and distribution of goods, we recognize that the situation still remains a source of concern.

Economic problems, although they differ in character, have been existing and will exist in all societies at whatever level of development they may be. The existence of the problem is not surprising, particularly in the transition period in which we are. The important thing is the existence of the ability to understand correctly the causes of the problems and to take all the necessary steps to solve them.

The shortages of basic commodities include industrial products such as textiles, shoes, sugar and so forth. The shortages have their own history. As we all understand, the factories we have today were established at least 15 years ago. Their productive capacity was designed in such a way as to satisfy the profit margins of a few members of the ruling classes and foreign capitalists at that time. It is clear to everybody that our industrial production, except for the limited growth arising from the efficiency of workers, is on the whole stagnant while population has been increasing from year to year.

In addition, it is also necessary to note that the purchasing power of the Ethiopian peasantry, which did not exist before in marketing terms, has greatly increased as a result of the basic steps we have taken in the course of the revolution. The additional jobs created in the last 7 years are estimated to be hundreds of thousands. As anybody can understand from this fact, the shortages of industrial products lie in the excess of demand over supply.

In addition to the efforts we make to import goods from overseas as far as the strength of our foreign exchange permits, every possible effort is made to establish new factories, as the lasting solution is to create additional production capacity. Since the problem regarding agricultural products, particularly in food crops, is very basic it has become a problem that demands the concentrated efforts of the working people and the revolution. Although the Ethiopian peasantry are the direct beneficiaries of the fruits of their own toil through their being the owners of their lands, the technology they employ is very backward.

In this sphere, therefore, a great sacrifice lies ahead of us in improving the life of the peasantry and in speeding up the country's economic development. The instruments of production are very backward. Moreover, only a few peasants receive things like improved seeds, pesticides, fertilizers and such aids to improving the productivity of land. They are mainly those who live along the main highways.

In its present situation and with the technology it employs, the peasantry, which holds a high place in our economy, has been unable to satisfy even the demands for raw materials and food crops of the existing few industries and the no more than 4 million compatriots living in urban centers, let alone the demands of our broad plan for speedy industrial development.

It is imperative that the agricultural sector of the economy be given the utmost priority and develop at a faster rate if the country is to acquire enough raw materials for its developing industrial network and adequate foreign reserves for national development efforts. In this connection steps should be taken to replace the plow and oxen by tractors and modern agricultural machinery and to make extensive use of fertilizers, pesticides and improved seeds in order to overcome natural obstacles and increase productivity.

In order to realize these objectives we should introduce new and effective organizational systems to the peasant farming orders and traditions. The productivity of all means of mechanized farming systems and the guarantee of the success of such ventures is the organization of the peasantry into farming cooperatives. That is why we emphasize the establishment of cooperatives in the rural agricultural community. If the peasantry cannot be organized into cooperatives and produce enough raw materials for our developing industries, all efforts to build socialism will be fruitless and futile. All supporters of the revolution should recognize that our endeavor to develop and strengthen the productive forces is essentially a struggle to build socialism and thus dedicate themselves to this revolutionary cause.

The other burning issue at stake is the rising cost of essential commodities and the ever-increasing cost of living. This regrettable situation has been created by the dubious and greedy businessmen constantly trying to sabotage our revolution.

Hence, in a bid to protect the working masses from exploitation of all kinds we will construct and consolidate state and private trade ventures together with the development of the industrial and agricultural sectors of our economy.

At this juncture I would like to guarantee that we will employ all our revolutionary experience to end exploitation by greedy businessmen and also encourage and support those businesses which try to benefit themselves by benefitting the nation. When we say "greedy businessmen" we mean all those businessmen who are bent on extracting the maximum profit out of the toil and products of the working masses, who use their offices and government privileges to promote their unfair and corrupt business dealings, and who try to dilute the revolutionary and patriotic sentiments of the working masses by spreading confusing and destructive imperialist ideas.

When we speak of major national problems we are essentially referring to the management of the national economy. The major problem facing our revolutionary efforts to attain socialist economic objectives is the scarcity of trained manpower to manage the national economy in the light of the country's new economic policy. We cannot claim we have adequately exploited the manpower resources at our disposal for the productive management of our national economy. Nor can we say that we have made satisfactory progress in training the manpower needed for financial management, accounting, bookkeeping and financial reporting services. This inadequacy on our part has led to misappropriation of public funds, theft, bribery and nepotism.

The prevalence of such problems will not surprise revolutionaries since they are aware of the fact that in the initial stages of a revolution, particularly a socialist revolution, the reactionaries beaten in the armed struggle resort to subtle economic sabotage in an effort to undermine the revolution. Our revolution, which successfully crushed the feudal system, will not hesitate to raise its iron fist to deal a fatal blow to corruption, theft, bribery and nepotism.

Comrades, so far I have attempted to highlight the major problems besetting our revolutionary endeavors. The elimination of these problems constitutes the foundation work for the success of our long-term revolutionary objectives, and we have no doubt as to the inevitable victory of our revolutionary struggle. [applause]

A major facet of our national revolutionary reconstruction program is the reorganization and strengthening of our national defense forces. We are all aware of the reactionary plots hatched in the Horn of Africa by hirelings and stooges of imperialism and reaction against the revolutionary torch burning in our beloved country. We still have the vivid and bitter memory of the attempts on our budding revolutionary movement with the aim of aborting it before we could consolidate our revolutionary might. Despite the futile attempts of imperialist and reactionaries to crush our revolution, they were unable to penetrate the solid revolutionary wall built by the selfless sacrifice and gallant resistance of the working masses of our beloved revolutionary motherland. Thanks to them we are able to celebrate this day with pomp and circumstance. [prolonged applause] Those who provoked us to armed clashes and whom we subsequently crushed and humiliated have not learned from experience. Together with the agents of imperialism in the north and east of our country they are still provoking us. Our enemies will never leave us in peace, nor do we expect them to.

Our revolutionary obligation is to remain every ready and ever vigilant to resist any aggression directed at our revolution and national unity. Our revolutionary forces, organized for the defense of socialism and the unity of our revolutionary motherland, must be equipped with modern weapons and military science in order to play effectively their revolutionary role. Our revolutionary forces are a new people's force. They are a socialist, patriotic, organizing production force. Through practical participation in all revolutionary endeavors they have demonstrated that they are a people's force. They will always protect our revolution and work to promote it. [applause]

Until imperialism is routed from the face of the earth, the revolutionary struggles of the oppressed masses of the world should always be prepared for defensive armed struggles. We do not want war and the wanton destruction of human lives through war. We want to establish a socialist society where equality, freedom and justice prevail. Our peaceful intention does not mean that we will ever compromise our revolution and territorial integrity. We will continue to prove to our restless foes that we are still gallant and heroic people, always ready to defend our revolutionary motherland. [applause] The working masses of Ethiopia should be organized in a national civil defense force as a further guarantee of the all-out defense of our territorial integrity and national security.

Comrades, we have repeatedly stressed the need for organized leadership of the revolution, to streamline revolutionary procedures and enhance systematic progress. In this connection the formation of Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] constitutes a step forward in the long and arduous struggle for the creation of a revolutionary workers' party. The working masses of Ethiopia have accorded COPWE unreserved and unwavering support in recognition of its ultimate objective of creating a workers' party. Apart from working for the creation of a workers' party, COPWE is also learning the tasks and responsibilities of a party and accumulating invaluable revolutionary experience through enriching the revolutionary education and experience of its members. COPWE, though not a party, is currently playing the role of a workers' party. Thus the formation of tomorrow's workers' party is inseparably linked with today's COPWE.

When we assess the contribution of COPWE at this particular stage of its development we realize that it has done good work in laying the foundations for the formation of a workers' party. In one congress, two regular sessions and one extraordinary session, alone it discussed numerous national and international issues, adopted resolutions and issued revolutionary and operation guidelines, all of which are specific expressions of effective organizational leadership.

It has undertaken a thorough, scientific assessment of the objective realities around us and drawn up the long- and short-term programs needed to overcome the deficiencies of our revolution and advance the genuine revolutionary struggle of the working masses of Ethiopia. Encouraging seminars, discussions and meetings are currently under way throughout the country to educate the broad masses of Ethiopia on the resolutions and political directives of COPWE and appraise the reactions of the people of Ethiopia toward COPWE's political, economic and social directives.

Comrades, at this moment of gathering to celebrate May Day it is our duty to reflect on our contribution to international peace. Now is the time when imperialist aggression and intransigence are threatening world peace and grievous danger is looming over the whole world. Hence, we have resolved to support unwaveringly the peace efforts of the peace-loving socialist community under the USSR's leadership. We strongly support the resolutions on peace adopted by the recent congresses of the CPSU and the communist parties of other socialist countries. [prolonged applause] In the spirit of proletarian internationalism we will struggle for the unity of the workers of the world with all progressive and socialist forces.

Comrades, we should be happy and proud to have attained revolutionary success after a long, bitter and arduous struggle. During our revolutionary struggle thousands of our compatriots have sacrificed their lives for justice, equality and socialism. Those of us who are fortunate enough to see this day should not be satisfied with our achievements. A long, arduous and decisive struggle is awaiting us. The revolutionary tasks ahead of us are very complex and demanding.

In the light of this, coupled with the revolutionary experiences we have acquired to date, the formation of a revolutionary party is both urgent and paramount for the success of our revolutionary national reconstruction programs and to the unity and territorial integrity of our revolutionary motherland. The question of forming a conscious, strong and agile revolutionary defensive force is decisive.

Dear working masses of my country: However arduous our revolutionary struggle might have been, we have attained numerous revolutionary gains and experiences which we have used to plot appropriate revolutionary paths which have proved to be the mainstay of the successes of our revolutionary progress. However difficult the obstacles ahead of us may be, whatever problems and challenges we may face, whatever plots may be hatched against us, we will overcome all obstacles and inconveniences and build justice, peace, wealth, democracy and socialism in our beloved revolutionary motherland. [applause]

KENYA

SOVIET MILITARY PLANES BEING HELD IN NAIROBI

ABO21135 Paris AFP in English 1114 GMT 2 May 81

[Text] Nairobi, May 2 (AFP)--Two Soviet military transport planes were being held at the airport here after an unscheduled landing on Thursday, apparently made when they ran low of fuel, the Kenyan newspaper THE STANDARD reported today.

The paper, which published a photograph of the two Antonov-26 aircraft, quoted informed sources as saying the 12 crew were questioned by Kenyan security police and the planes searched.

It was not known what the planes were carrying, and the pilots gave different answers when asked where they had taken off from, the paper said.

The planes had been flying south when, according to the crews, their fuel ran low.

The first secretary of the Soviet Embassy went to the airport but refused to accompany the Kenyans when they searched the aircraft. Soviet Embassy officials were not available for comment.

Mogadishu Report

LD022150 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 2 May 81 EA

[Text] Reports reaching us from Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, state that two Soviet Air Force planes are being held by Kenyan security forces at Nairobi international airport. The Nairobi STANDARD reported today that the two Soviet Air Force planes were forced down by Kenyan security forces when they entered Kenyan airspace without prior permission. According to THE STANDARD the two pilots gave conflicting statements when questioned by Kenyan security forces. Informed sources in the Kenyan capital believe that the two Soviet Air Force transport planes were ferrying weapons to Ethiopia. [passage indistinct]

MINISTER RETURNS FROM ADDIS ABABA, COMMENTS

LD011556 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 1 May 81 EA

[Excerpt] The minister for foreign affairs, Dr Robert Ouko, has said that Kenyan borders are permanent, undebatable and will remain that way. Dr Ouko said this today on arrival at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where he attended the second trilateral ministerial committee meeting. Reacting to an article that appeared in today's newspapers concerning Somalis in Kenya's North-Eastern Province, Dr Ouko said Kenya borders are not changeable.

He said that the first economic trilateral ministerial committee meeting between Kenya, Sudan and Ethiopia was held in June 1973 when a committee was set up to deal with the economic problems in the three countries. He said that the last meeting set up three other committees which will be meeting as frequently as possible. The committees are a joint subcommittee for transport and communications, a joint subcommittee for culture, science and technology and a joint subcommittee for border and security matters. The minister said that the Addis Ababa meeting was held cordially under the chairmanship of the Ethiopian foreign minister, Feleke Giorgis, and decisions were unanimously agreed.

Meanwhile the government has formed an advisory committee to look into the welfare of civil servants in the North-Eastern Province. The North-Eastern provincial commissioner, Mr Benson Kaaria, announced this when he addressed a Labor Day rally attended by thousands of wananchi and workers at the Garissa primary school grounds today.

MP'S CONDEMN NORTH-EASTERN DISSIDENT ELEMENTS

LD031506 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 3 May 81 EA

[Text] Leaders from the North-Eastern Province have condemned strongly the few disgruntled elements calling themselves Northern Frontier District Liberation Front, threatening to cause chaos in the North-Eastern Province. The leaders who condemned the so-called front were an assistant minister for industry, Mohamed Sheikh Adan, who is the MP for Mandera East; Mr Abdi Ali Hirsi, MP for Wajir South; Mr Khalif, MP for Wajir West; and Councillor Haji Yusuf Abdi of Garissa.

In a strongly worded statement Sheikh Adan blasted a neighboring country for nursing an illegal expansion program against Kenya and appealed to wananchi in North-Eastern Province to remain strongly behind the leadership of His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi, the Kenya Government and ruling party, KANU. Sheikh Adan said people in the North-Eastern Province were Kenyans despite their language affinity with those in the neighboring countries. The assistant minister said wananchi in the province do not want to be liberated, because they are already living in a free independent country with a democratically elected government. The leaders reaffirmed their total and unshakable loyalty to the president, the government and the ruling party, KANU.

SOMALIAOFFICIALS HAND OVER POSTS TO SUCCESSORS 2 MAY

LD022226 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 2 May 81 EA

[Text] Third Vice President of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Brig Gen Ismail Ali Abokar, who was chairman of the People's Assembly, today handed over the post of People's National Assembly chairman to Challe Mohammed Ibrahim Ahmad.

The ceremony was held at the People's National Assembly, and Challe Ismail Ali Abokar, speaking on the occasion, stated that he has received full cooperation from the president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, the government, the Standing Committee and the members of the National Assembly. Challe Ismail added that the People's National Assembly is experiencing a period of which the Somali people can be proud. Challe Ismail Ali Abokar urged the Standing Committee to give full support to the new chairman of the People's National Assembly in the same way as they had supported him. [passage indistinct]

Also today Challe Brig Gen Mohamed Sheikh Osman handed over the post of first deputy chairman of the People's National Assembly to Challe Omar Arteh Ghalib, who was formerly the chairman of the Political Committee of the People's National Assembly.

Challe Col abd Irazaq Mohamed Abokar, who was formerly the second deputy chairman of the People's National Assembly, handed over his post to Challe Mohamed Buraleh Ismail, who was formerly the minister of labor and social affairs.

Challe Omar Arteh Ghalib, who was formerly the chairman of the Political Committee of the People's National Assembly, handed over his post to Challe Abd al-Qasim Salad, who was formerly chairman of the Inspection Committee of the People's National Assembly. [passage indistinct]

TANZANIANYERERE HOPES FOOD SITUATION WILL IMPROVE

LD011550 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1000 GMT 1 May 81 EA

[Text] Tabora--President Nyerere has called on Tanzanians not to be confused as a result of problems facing us at present. In a live address to the nation on the radio today to mark International Workers Day, 1 May, Mwalimu once again emphasized that the problems facing us have come about as a result of the poor state of the world's economy.

Touching upon the food situation in the country, the president said that this has not yet improved. However, he said if the heavy rains continue until the end of this month in many parts of the country there will be a good hope of getting adequate food.

Regarding those who sabotage the country's economy, Mwalimu said the party Central Committee will continue its task of weeding out the few who sabotage the economy. The president urged people to uncover such saboteurs who, he said, are weak because they are thieves. He said the people know who such saboteurs are. It is thus their responsibility to assist the Central Committee in the important task of defending the country's economy.

FIRST CONTINGENT OF TROOPS RETURNS FROM UGANDA

LD021500 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1000 GMT 2 May 81 EA

[Text] Mwanza--Lieutenant General Musuguri, commander of the Tanzanian Armed Forces, welcomed the first contingent of Tanzanian troops returning from Uganda this morning. This contingent is part of the 10,000 soldiers in Uganda who will return in small contingents until the final contingent returns next month.

The soldiers were welcomed by a cheering crowd, including party and government leaders at the port of Mwanza. Col Seif Bakari, the deputy minister of defense and national services, joined the commander of the Tanzanian Armed Forces, and will greet the returning soldiers later today.

UGANDAMUWANGA INSTRUCTS CHIEFS TO REGISTER RESIDENTS

LD022052 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 2 May 81 EA

[Text] The vice president and minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, has instructed all chiefs in Mukono, Mpigi and Kampala districts to register the residents in their areas, including ex-Amin soldiers.

Addressing the district commissioners and chiefs of the three districts in Kampala, Mr Muwanga warned that chiefs who will fail to comply with this directive will be regarded as supporters of the antigovernment activity in the country.

Mr Muwanga noted with regret the brutal murders last night of a parish priest and a (?central) leader in Kisorwa, Mukono district. He wondered what the bandits would achieve by killing innocent civilians, especially for political reasons. Mr Muwanga said, however, that the government was aware of parasites behind the antigovernment movement and warned that they (?will) soon be brought to book.

The minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Chris Rwakasisi, blamed the [word indistinct] chiefs [words indistinct] lawless elements in their areas. He said that the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] came to power through a democratic process and it will (?have) to rule for the next 5 years before (?calling) for another general election. He appealed to the chiefs to [word indistinct] identify the [words indistinct].

The commander of the 15th Battalion, Lt Col Bazilio Olara Okelo, said that he was prepared to remove soldiers from roadblocks in Kampala area as long as civilians could cooperate with the police in manning roadblocks. He appealed to Ugandans to stop fighting among themselves and instead concentrate on intensive production.

GUINEA-BISSAUFOREIGN MINISTER REVIEWS POSTCOUP SITUATION

LD011854 Launda ANGOP in Portuguese 1430 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] Luanda, 1 May (ANGOP)--Victor Saude Maria, deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Council and minister of foreign affairs of Guinea-Bissau, has granted an interview to the Portuguese newspaper A CAPITAL, in which he reviewed the situation in his country since the 14 November readjustment movement and talked about future prospects of normalization of the country's political life.

"Guinea-Bissau is in a difficult situation: We are very poor and have a heavy foreign debt, but we also are a nation, a free people willing to forge its own destiny," he began by saying. Saude Maria categorically rejected any project of merger with Guinea-Conakry. "We are different," Saude Maria stressed, "profoundly different; our official language is Portuguese. Our only common interests are centered on oil, nothing else."

With regard to the priority tasks of the new government, the Guinea leader advocated an economic development based on agriculture, the origin of wealth, work and life of the Guinea people. "An exclusively export-oriented industry, exploited by foreigners, can only be a false development, a way of earning money at the expense of our raw materials and manpower," he said.

The Guinea foreign minister explained that the political situation in his country is gradually returning to normal since the suspension of the old constitution and the setting up of the Revolutionary Council at the head of a provisional government, loyal to the teachings of Amilcar Cabral.

Saude Maria advocated wider cooperation with Portugal in all spheres, underscoring Portugal's wish to assist Bissau, particularly in the spheres of trade, agronomy and public health.

To a question on the fate of Luis Cabral, the Guinea leader said that "he will be released, but only in the medium terms." "A few others," he added, "will be tried. One of them is the director of the People's Stores, charged with corruption, for instance." "These stores," he continued, "were a total disaster, and at the moment we are reorganizing them and also promoting private trade and enterprise."

At the end of the interview the Guinea leader described as "good" relations with Portuguese-speaking African countries, that is, Angola and Mozambique. "Not with Cape Verde, though," he said, "because they refuse to understand the reason for our revolution." Saude Marie did not, however, rule out the possibility of mediation between the two sides.

NIGERIAPRESIDENT SHAGARI'S SPEECH TO NATION ON MAY DAY

AB011519 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 May 81

[Speech by President Shehu Shagari in Lagos on 1 May--recorded]

[Text] Fellow Nigerians, as you are all aware, today is May Day, a day which is set aside every year for the commemoration of the historic struggle of the workers all over the world for economic emancipation. For the first time in the history of this nation, the day was declared a work-free day throughout the country. This is a recognition by my administration of the significant contribution which Nigerian workers have made and I expect will continue to make to the economic progress of our blessed nation.

In my first national broadcast to the nation when I assumed office in October 1979, I told the Nigerian labor movement to join hands with my administration and all men of good will to develop the country's economy for the good of all.

I also promised to ameliorate the conditions of Nigerian workers through appropriate measures, including consultations and legislation. In fulfillment of this pledge, a minimum wage of 100 naira per month for every worker in the public sector was introduced with effect from 1 April 1980. Rent subsidy was extended to all officers in salary grade levels 01 to 07. Before then, only officers at grade level 08 and above enjoyed rent subsidy. Transport allowance was also introduced for the first time to all categories of workers on salary grade levels 01 to 17 whether or not they obtain loans to purchase vehicles. My administration continued to examine other areas for increasing the real earnings of the worker. I would like to say, however, that we need peace and harmony to do all this. We need the concentration of the Nigerian labor movement. I regret to say that recent events within the trade union movement has given me considerable concern. Several strikes have taken place without the organizers using the machineries that had been established for resolving trade disputes. Workers in certain organizations (?pertaining to) essential services and who are prohibited by the provisions of the trade disputes essential services act of 1976 from going on strike, have ignored this [word indistinct] and gone on illegal strike.

From January to December 1980, there was a total of 215 industrial disputes, out of which 51 were declared by workers belonging to the essential services. The total number of strikes carried out was 255. The number of workers involved was 220,988, while the total man hours lost was 2,551,000 [words indistinct]. In spite of the emerging strike actions undertaken by the essential services, my administration still has abiding faith in the Nigerian worker. That was why I directed the minister of health to enter into negotiation with the Nigerian Medical Association. A joint negotiation panel comprising representatives of Federal Government and Nigerian Medical Association deliberated on the issue of disputes and submitted its report to the Federal Government on 21 April 1981. As the Federal Government is not the sole employer of doctors working in public health institutions, it decided to refer the reports to a meeting with the National Economics Council, already fixed for 11 May 1981, for consideration and decision which will be binding to all governments in the federation. It is therefore surprising to learn that the association has planned to call out its members to embark on a strike action again on 11 May 1981 notwithstanding the mutual understanding that the consent of the state governments was needed to implement the recommendations contained in the report. May I appeal to the association to reconsider its reported plans to take another action in the interest of the masses of our people who will suffer untold hardship.

Since the introduction of the unified grading structure into the public service following reports of the Okoji public service review commission, there has been agitation by some parastatals and state-owned concerns to be taken out of the civil service system. The present wave of industrial unrest in some of our public corporations and parastatals have been attributed by some well-meaning people to the unified grading structures.

Following complaints by the staff associations of the Central Bank of Nigeria, the Federal Government reviewed the fringe benefits for the staff of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Nigerian Investment Development Bank (NIDB), Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry (NBCI) in line with what obtained in the banking sector of the economy. Furthermore, I appointed a high-level government team to discuss with central bank senior staff joint [word indistinct] committee the dispute concerning review of salaries.

Considering the [words indistinct] made in favor of the salary review for the staff of the banking sector and the demand of the staff of other parastatals, the Federal Government decided to tackle the problem on a comprehensive basis.

Accordingly, I set up a presidential commission to look into the matter. The commission is composed of the following: Mr (G. Onotode), chairman of the Council of the Nigerian Institute of Management, as chairman; Mr (N.P. Usman), retired federal permanent secretary, member; Dr Christopher Kolade, retired director general of the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria and now a business executive, member; Mr E.C. Adeole, chartered accountant, member; and Alhaji Idris Koko, head of the civil service of Sokoto State, as member.

The commission, which is expected to submit its report within 4 months, has the following term of reference: Having regard to the urgent desire of the Federal Government to improve the efficiency and the effectiveness of the public services as a whole and the need to maintain an equitable income policy and a higher level of morale within the public service, the commission shall:

- A. Examine the organization structure, management and job functions of all public corporations and parastatals, excluding universities in relation to one another and the rest of the public service and similar organizations within the private sector respectively;
- B. Consider whether any of such public corporations, companies and parastatals could be taken out of the present unified credit system and provide justification for such an exercise;
- C. Recommend guidelines for fixing salary scales to be applicable to the different public corporations, companies and parastatals, if any, which may be relieved from the present unified grading system;
- D. Consider the implications for the public services and the economy and any recommendations that may be made;
- E. Inquire and make recommendations on any other methods which in the opinion of the commission appear to be relevant to the four goals and therefore ought in the public interest to be inquired into.

Let me state here that my administration agrees that strike action is one of the weapons which the trade unions sometimes use to press for improved conditions for their members. However, the plan to commence a general strike on 11 May 1981 is not in accord with the spirit of cooperation which should exist between the government and the labor government officials since the issues in dispute are under active consideration by the appropriate organs of government. I should like to draw attention in particular to the demand for a 300-naire minimum wage which in our present economic circumstances is unrealistic. It is well-known that no employer, including the federal and state governments and the private sector, will be able to meet with this demand without serious consequences. Already, many employers in the manufacturing and the commercial industries have expressed fears that they may be forced to close down with the bleak prospects of throwing thousands of workers out of employment.

It is my view that if the strike weapon should be used only as a last resort, I expect all trade unions to follow the laid-down procedures and henceforth cease taking the law into their hands. In this connection, I wish to appeal to all men of goodwill to prevail on the labor movement to place the interest of the nation above sectional interests.

Fellow countrymen and women, it is my wish that everything should be done to arrest the dangerous tendency toward industrial chaos. Our goal of economic self-sufficiency can only be achieved if we all cooperate toward promoting peace and industrial harmony.

My administration will continue to bear in mind the interests of the Nigerian workers. But I also expect the Nigerian labor movement to reciprocate the good intentions of my government. Much as the worker expects the government or the organization he works for to pay him fair wages, among other things, by the same token he should be prepared to give value in return for the benefit he receives. The relationship which [words indistinct] peace [word indistinct] and support from the other.

It is my hope and wish that this year's unique May Day may usher in an era of industrial peace and harmony, improved work (?conditions) and higher productivity on the part of all Nigerian workers. Thank you. May God bless you.

FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN PRAGUE

LD011404 Prague CTK in English 1733 GMT 1 May 81

[Text] Prague, 1 May (CETKA)--Nigerian Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu expressed full satisfaction with the results of his four-day official visit to Czechoslovakia at a press conference here Thursday. He appreciated the level of cooperation between both countries in the United Nations and in bilateral contacts, and Czechoslovakia's participation in the program of industrialization of Nigeria and training of Nigerian experts.

Speaking about the situation in the south of Africa, he stated that Nigeria traditionally supports the national liberation movement, and appreciated Czechoslovakia's assistance to the struggle for freedom and independence of African nations.

Ishaya Audu stated that the developing countries are interested in a just international economic order and stressed that it is necessary to take concrete steps to solve this problem.

Nigeria favours peace talks on international problems, but this does not mean that e.g. in the case of Namibia it does not support the armed struggle for national liberation, Ishaya Audu added.

Without recognition of the national liberation movement the question of a just settlement cannot be solved in Namibia and free elections held. Nigeria, just as Czechoslovakia, voiced regret at the failure of the Geneva conference on this problem and both countries agree that consistent fulfillment of resolutions of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and the Non-Aligned Movement are a key to the solution of the problem.

The Nigerian minister spoke about unequal economic relations between countries and noted that the North-South dialogue, asserted by advanced capitalist countries, fell short of expectations, e.g. Third World countries are doubly affected by the present situation--first cheaply selling their raw materials and produce and then importing expensive industrial products.

E.g. Nigeria as a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is opposed as a matter of principle to a separate discussion of the energy problem, but is striving for evaluation of the problem of all raw materials in world-wide context at international conferences, the minister added.

FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS CSSR; COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

For reportage on Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu's visit to the CSSR and the joint communique issued, see the Czechoslovakia section, page D 7 of the 29 April, page D 6 of the 1 May, and page D 10 of the 4 May Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

ANGOLADOS SANTOS VIEWS U.S. RELATIONS IN MAY DAY ADDRESS

LD021536 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 2 May 81 EA

[Excerpts] The sixth May Day in independent Angola was celebrated throughout the country yesterday with mass political rallies, during which our leaders explained the significance of the generalized offensive against carelessness and inefficiency, faults which were pointed out in the last declaration of the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau.

In our capital, Luanda, the main celebrations of the international workers day were presided over by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the MPLA-Labor Party and the republic.

In his address to the nation, our president dealt with the generalized offensive against carelessness and inefficiency which was launched throughout the country yesterday.

The president of the party and the republic referred to a number of problems in the economic sector which are preventing the progress of our revolution. These problems justify the unleashing of the generalized offensive against carelessness and inefficiency.

The head of state and government denounced the practice of kandonga [graft] and speculation by some Angolans, who are still imbued with the colonial mentality to the detriment of the honest work of our workers and peasants.

Other evils denounced by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos were the theft of foodstuffs and industrial goods from the warehouses of the Ministry of Home Trade; the use of sugar for the brewing of (kaperoto); the illegal sale at exorbitant prices of clothes and shoes; the sale of bottled whisky removed illegally from the Home Trade warehouses.

Our head of state and government also criticized the law-enforcement institutions for not punishing workers who disregard state laws and who perpetuate the irregularities prevailing at production centers, particularly those which are the (?heartbeat) of the building of socialism. Stressing the need to fight such a situation, which he said has been obstructing our organizational efforts at a number of party and government activity centers, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos outlined the objectives of the general offensive against carelessness and inefficiency. This offensive is aimed at reestablishing party and government authority by enforcing discipline at all levels and controlling the activity of each worker and each body in the activity being undertaken by such a body, by strengthening the links between the party and the broad masses and by increasing the political awareness of party members and the people in order to guarantee the implementation of the guidelines of the first extraordinary congress of the party and the national plan.

The offensive which has been launched will be led by the party. It will first be enforced in Luanda and later in other provinces under the guidance of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee secretariat and will have a markedly, so to speak, political and educative character and not merely a repressive character.

While the offensive is being mounted, the party Central Committee secretariat will hold meetings with coordinators of provincial committees and will give guidelines to party cell coordinators, the heads of the party youth and mass organizations. Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos stressed the need to denounce irregularities as one of the main aspects of the exercise. The head of state and government has called on the Angolan people hitherto to denounce with courage all irregularities prevailing at places of work and residences.

Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos told the Angolan people to wage an unwavering struggle against all those who persist in living their lives under the principles of the old society which we all wish to eliminate.

The struggle has been long and serious. Our people waged it first against Portuguese colonialism and the puppet UNITA organization and, later, against South Africa supported by the Western powers. Since 1961 South Africa and its allies have been trying to find neocolonial solutions for our country, through organizations brought into being by them, the head of state stressed.

Alerting the people to possible major actions by the South African army, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos called on them to consent to greater sacrifices, so as to enable the fraternal peoples of Namibia and South Africa to find a firm rearguard in our country.

We are being attacked because we are assuming this position, said Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who went on to stress that international imperialism is perfectly aware of the impending victory of the progressive forces, which is an immense danger to its achievements in this part of the continent--achievements which were brought about through fascist terror by the apartheid regime.

For this reason, the head of state continued, we shall strengthen our defense units by arming them with modern equipment. We shall mobilize the necessary human resources.

We must defend our fatherland, said Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. This situation will prevail for as long as Namibia, which is illegally occupied by the South African regime, remains not independent and for as long as South Africa's hideous regime remains in being.

Referring to the sham pretext of the right of pursuit being used to attack frontline countries, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said that what exists in fact is a deliberate action, an undeclared war, to destabilize our country and other countries in the region and to intimidate the Angolan people.

Referring to the proposal to draft a constitution before elections for a constituent assembly, a move aimed at placing SWAPO, the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people on an equal footing with the so-called internal parties created by South Africa to break their unity, the president of the party and the republic stressed that these internal parties, which are described as democratic, are claiming to be constitutional. This is because they are afraid to compete with SWAPO on an equal footing in free and democratic elections. In this regard, the head of state and government said, we believe that the best way to solve the problem is to sign a cease-fire to end the unjust war, for which there is no necessity. The Namibian people must be given the chance to [passage indistinct] international through Resolution No 435 of the UN Security Council.

Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos also said that our government had agreed to receive U.S. President Reagan's envoy, Mr Chester Crocker, in order to demonstrate that, although the People's Republic of Angola has no relations with the United States, Angola is not hostile to that country. Quite the reverse is true, the head of state emphasized, saying that it is the United States which is hostile toward Angola.

It wants to show that in Angola there is no government by Soviets and Cubans, but authentic government by the sovereign and independent people of Angola.

Still referring to the United States, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said that it is a pity that the U.S. assistant secretary of state stayed in Angola for only 1 day. This did not permit him to visit the provinces, where the puppets abroad claim to be in control, the head of state said. Their control only exists in their imagination. Those claims do not at all represent the reality.

MOZAMBIQUEAGREEMENT REACHED WITH ZIMBABWE ON TRANSPORT

LD011538 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1130 GMT 1 May 81 EA

[Text] Mozambique and Zimbabwe have agreed to increase rail and road traffic between the two countries and use Mozambique ports. The decision was taken during talks between the minister of ports and land transport, Alcantara Santos, the Zimbabwean minister and deputy minister of transport and power, Josiah Chinamano and (Tswatahi) respectively, and the deputy minister of roads and road traffic, posts and telecommunications. A joint communique issued after the talks said that the two government delegations discussed the implementation of the southern African development coordination conference projects. The projects are the responsibility of the Southern African Commission for Transport and Communications. During the talks, the two parties also analyzed relations between the railway enterprises of the two countries with a view to increasing contacts and improving coordination.

The joint communique stressed that the two delegations studied current and future use of Mozambique railways and ports for Zimbabwean imports and exports. During the talks the delegations also discussed issues relating to the number of existing locomotives, maximum use of railways, the transportation of gasoline, diesel and lubricants and the reopening of the Beira-Umtali oil pipeline.

On telecommunications, the two sides discussed a number of issues including the operation of the existing direct telephone line between Maputo and Salisbury and the opening shortly of a direct telex line between the two cities. The minister of ports and land transport, Alcantara, has already returned to Maputo after his visit to Zimbabwe, which ended yesterday.

SOUTH AFRICACAPACITY FOR NUCLEAR FUEL PRODUCTION ASSESSED

LD040432 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 4 May 81

[Text] The chairman of the South African Uranium Enrichment Corporation, Dr (A.J. Roux), says South Africa will be able to produce sufficient nuclear fuel to power the country's first nuclear power station economically. In an interview with the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation], he said that as soon as the corporation's plant was completed it would be able to produce about 50 tons of enriched uranium a year which was required by the Koeberg power station. With regard to the refusal by the United States to supply fuel for Koeberg unless South Africa signs the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, he said that speculation that Koeberg would operate at a loss if it had to use South African enriched Uranium was based on faulty information. Those who thought so were not aware of South Africa's capacity in this field.

ZIMBABWEMUGABE VIEWS USSR RELATIONS IN IZVESTIYA INTERVIEW

LD301418 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Apr 81 EA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, says colonialism and traditional forms of racism are on their way out of Africa. In an interview with the Soviet newspaper IZVESTIYA, Comrade Mugabe said this is demonstrated by the birth of an independent Zimbabwe and the advance of the liberation struggle in Namibia and apartheid-ruled South Africa. The prime minister indicated that he is in favor of closer relations between Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union, adding that he will try to improve relations with Moscow. Comrade Mugabe pointed out that the Soviet experiment is useful for Zimbabwe, which is building a socialist state where all resources will be used for the benefit of the people.